

Kissinger to head panel on C. America

HOLLYWOOD (AP). — President Ronald Reagan yesterday announced that former secretary of state Henry Kissinger will head a bipartisan national commission to advise him on U.S. policy in Central America.

He said that the commission would look at the long-term implications of Central American issues and present recommendations to him later this year.

In his toughly worded speech to the International Longshoremen's Association here, the president made clear that he has no intention of forsaking his determined defence of the Salvadoran regime or his anti-Communist crusade in the troubled region.

Reagan said that the panel, whose other eight members are to be named shortly, "will be honoured" by Kissinger's leadership. He called Kissinger, who served presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, "virtually a legend" in the field of diplomacy.

The commission "will lay the foundation for a long-term, unified national approach to the freedom and independence of the countries of Central America," Reagan said.

The president's announcement came a day after four Latin American presidents appealed Sunday to him and Cuban leader Fidel Castro to join their efforts to avert a war between Honduras and Nicaragua that could spread throughout Central America.

Presidents Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico, Luis Herrera Campins of Venezuela, Belisario Betancur of Colombia and Ricardo de la Espriella of Panama held a summit conference in Cancun, Mexico on Sunday hoping to find a peaceful solution to political violence in Central America before the threat of war between leftist Nicaragua and U.S.-supported Honduras intensified.

In Managua, Nicaragua's leaders yesterday said that almost 12,000 troops including a battalion of U.S. special forces were massed along its northern border with Honduras, and Interior Minister Tomas Borge described the situation as "the calm before the storm."

Terms set for return of Egyptian envoy

CAIRO (AP). — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali said yesterday Egypt would not return its ambassador to Israel until Israel withdraws from Lebanon, abandons her "aggressive policies" and contributes to a "new political atmosphere" in the Middle East.

Burg says 'no' to Aguda on freeing 18 zealots

By ROBERT ROSENBERG and MICHAEL ELIAN
Jerusalem Post Reporters

Interior Minister Yosef Burg yesterday turned down a request by Agudat Yisrael to release 18 religious zealots held by police in the wake of last week's violent anti-archaeology demonstrations in Mea She'arim, sources close to Burg said yesterday.

The Aguda representatives, led by MK Shlomo Lorincz — a Jerusalemite with a large constituency in the religious neighbourhoods of northern Jerusalem — appealed to Burg's religious sensibilities saying that it was not proper that yeshiva students be in jail during Tisha B'Av.

The police are holding 18 zealots by court order until the end of litigation against them. One of them is a woman, Golda Minsberg, who is charged with biting a policeman's



Thousands flocked to the Western Wall last night to observe Tisha B'Av, the fast marking the destruction of the First and Second Temples. Those sitting on mats are reading kinot (dirges) and the Book of Lamentations. (Rahamim Israeli)

3 sought in attack on IDF officer

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Police last night were searching for three suspects in the alleged attempted murder of an Israel Defence Forces officer after giving him a lift in their rented car from the Meggido junction, near Afula, on Sunday night.

The officer, Segen-Mishne Ron Tzur, 21, of the Engineers Corps, told police that he struggled with the men who held a pistol to his head.

During the fight three shots were fired. The first hit Tzur's hand, but the other two missed. Tzur said he managed to escape by kicking open one of the rear doors when the driver slowed down at a curve. Tzur said he used his army training and rolled into the road from the moving vehicle, reducing the risk of injury.

The car with the three suspects drove off leaving Tzur lying in the road until a passing motorist, a resident of Umm el-Fahm stopped and gave him a lift to his home at nearby

Kibbutz Givat Oz.

Police said last night they were searching for the three suspects and the rented car. Inquiries are being conducted on both sides of the green line, said a police officer.

The incident occurred at about 9 p.m. as Tzur was trying to hitch a ride from the Meggido junction to his kibbutz. A rented car with three men inside stopped, and he got in. As they were moving away, one of the passengers pulled out a pistol and held it to Tzur's head, Tzur told police. The man ordered him to follow orders and not to resist. The order was given in Hebrew, but the three men spoke Arabic amongst themselves, Tzur said.

He told police that the men intended killing him. Since his own Gail rifle was lying out of reach, he grabbed the arm of the man holding the gun, which went off, hitting him in the hand. But Tzur clung to the man to prevent the gun being pointed at him while at the same time fighting off the other passenger.

Tzur was cut and bruised when he rolled out of the car, but he was not seriously hurt. When he arrived home, his family immediately called police and road blocks were set up throughout the area. Tzur was later taken to the Emek Hospital in Afula where he received treatment for his injured hand and abrasions.

One explanation for the attack is that it was part of a long-standing feud between Tzur's kibbutz and Arab neighbours.

About a fortnight ago, hundreds of dunams of avocado and nuts were uprooted. A defence establishment source said Arabs had systematically uprooted, broken and saved up the saplings.

Meanwhile, the IDF reported Tzur had not violated army regulations by taking the ride with his attackers. IDF regulations forbid soldiers from hitchhiking rides in cars bearing licence plates of the administered territories, diplomatic corps and the UN, but the card that took Tzur reportedly bore regular black and yellow Israeli plates.

Court allows prayers at Temple Mount gate

The High Court of Justice yesterday granted permission to a Jewish group, calling itself the Temple Mount Faithful, to hold prayers to-day, Tisha B'Av, at the Mograbi Gate entrance to the mount.

The three judges, Moshe Beisky, Yehuda Cohen and Eliezer Goldberg, decided that the number of worshippers allowed at the site would be fixed by Nitzav Yehoshua Caspi, commander of the police southern district.

The court decision follows a long

discussion between the group's attorney and a representative of the State Attorney's Office, according to *Itim*.

Robert Rosenberg adds: Past High Court rulings have also left the decision about how many people can pray at the gate up to the police.

However, police sources noted that the court has now given that authority to Caspi, taking it away from Tel-Nitzav Rahamim Com-

fort, the Jerusalem police chief. Gershon Salomon, the leader of the group, has criticized Comfort in the past as anti-religious.

However, a senior police source in Jerusalem last night said that Caspi can be expected to make the same decisions as would Comfort.

In the past, police have prevented the prayer meetings from getting past a police guard in front of the gate, and have limited participation to some two dozen demonstrators.

At Reagan-Jemayel talks Friday: U.S. will aim to boost 'shaky' Lebanon gov't

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — President Ronald Reagan and Lebanese President Amin Jemayel will explore new ways to remove Syrian forces from Lebanon when the two meet at the White House on Friday, administration officials said yesterday.

The officials conceded that they were groping for some new formulation which would inevitably have to play down the importance of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement signed in May. Syria has rejected the pact.

While the Americans yesterday continued to express doubt that their new efforts were likely to lead to any breakthrough in the near future, they said they were primarily concerned about strengthening the shaky Jemayel government in the face of renewed fighting in Beirut

and pressures from Syria to back away from the accord with Israel. Thus, the administration was mostly anxious to give the appearance of positive movement even if none was actually there.

"We have to keep the effort alive and most importantly maintain the morale of the Lebanese government so they don't cave in to Syrian pressure," a senior U.S. official was quoted as telling *The New York Times*. The official, who was not identified, said it was necessary "not to appear as if we've given up hope."

This was also the message conveyed late last week by Secretary of State George Shultz during a closed-door briefing for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The secretary, who had just returned from his unsuccessful visit to the Middle East, expressed hope that the combination of a steady U.S.

Israeli-Lebanese posture and a buildup of pressure from within the Arab world would eventually moderate the Syrian stance.

Sources present during the session said Shultz did not report on any specific new avenue for securing U.S. objectives in Lebanon.

The *Times* quoted U.S. and Lebanese officials as saying they expected Jemayel, in his talks with Reagan and Shultz, to agree on an approach that made as little mention as possible of the Israeli-Lebanese accord. The thrust of U.S. thinking, the newspaper said, was that Lebanon should "officially" inform Syria that Israel is prepared to leave, and that Lebanon wants Syria to do the same.

The State Department yesterday said the U.S. was not about to bring the Soviet Union into the negotiations. Spokesman John Hughes told (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Jemayel is taking big aid request to U.S.

BEIRUT. — President Amin Jemayel left for the U.S. via Paris yesterday, planning to discuss U.S. military and economic aid in addition to ways of breaking the stalemate over foreign troop withdrawals, state and privately owned radio stations reported.

Aside from meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Friday, Jemayel will also have talks with U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and congressional leaders during the five-day visit. He will also visit Lebanese-American groups in Detroit and Houston.

Lebanese President Amin Jemayel

met last night with King Hussein of Jordan at a villa in Cannes, according to an Agence France Presse report which quoted "a reliable source."

The independent Beirut newspaper *Al-Nahar* said Jemayel's talks with congressional leaders would focus on attaining a better understanding of Lebanon's needs, especially the presence of 1,200 U.S. Marines serving with the Multi National Force in Beirut.

Lebanon has declared it wants the 5,400-man force made up of American, French, Italian and British peacekeepers boosted to at least 12,000 men to help the

Lebanese Army cope with a possible Israeli withdrawal from central Lebanon.

The Jemayel government plans to send its U.S.-trained army into all areas that might be vacated by Israeli, Syrian or Palestinian forces, especially the central mountains where Christian and Druse militiamen have been warring since last fall.

Jemayel will be accompanied on the visit by Prime Minister Sefik Wazzan, a Moslem. Beirut newspapers said this is designed to demonstrate national unity.

The TV station said Jemayel plans (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Death toll hits 20 in new Lebanon violence

BEIRUT (Reuters). — Gunbattles, shellfire and street killings yesterday brought the death toll in Lebanon to more than 20 on the fifth successive day of a new round of violence.

A earload of gunmen, branded as Christian rightists by the leftist daily *As-Safir*, started a shootout in a mainly Shi'ite Moslem Beirut district overnight in which two men were killed and three girls wounded. Security sources and press reports said the men opened fire on a restaurant. Gunmen thought to belong to the Shi'ite Amal militia fired back and one man on each side was killed.

The army intervened to stop the shooting, which threatened to flare up into a sectarian incident, security sources said.

Early yesterday, two civilians, an Algerian and a Syrian, were gunned down in an apparently motiveless act committed on the Corniche Mazraa, one of Beirut's main boulevards.

In the poor Moslem southern suburbs, gunmen fired from a speeding car and killed a passerby. In the main commercial district, security forces found another body.

A shell crashed into the offices of the pre-Syrian Ba'athist party in the lawless northern port of Tripoli early yesterday, killing a guard.

State-run Beirut Radio reported an explosion 100 metres from an Israeli position near the

Maghdousheh crossroads, northeast of Sidon.

No immediate details were available of casualties or damage. The right-wing Phalangist radio said a Soviet-designed Grad rocket hit the Mukalles industrial zone on the outskirts of East Beirut, causing damage but no casualties.

It also reported sniping from the Druse village of Marouneh in the central Shouf Mountains on the Christian township of Baabda. No independent confirmation was available.

Last night shellfire and sniping racked the hills behind the capital as Christian and Druse militias pounded each other's positions in their long-running mountain feud.

NEWSBEAT/Robert Rosenberg

Lebanese self-interest favours hashish trade

This is the third in a series of articles on the economic, legal and social implications for Israel of the Lebanese hashish industry.

Israeli police officers have tried to make contact with their counterparts in Lebanon in order to discuss ways to block the hashish trail into Israel, high-ranking police sources in Jerusalem have confirmed to *The Jerusalem Post*.

"But they have a good excuse nowadays why they can't help us," said one source, explaining that "they don't want to look too 'normalized' in their relations with us."

The real reason, say police sources, for a decided lack of cooperation between Israeli and Lebanese authorities on the problem of hashish smuggling, is that the law enforcement agencies in Lebanon are not only constrained by the peculiar circumstances of that country, but because many top Lebanese officials profit from the hash market.

"Nothing takes place inside Lebanon without the local militia knowing about it," said one Israeli source, who in the course of his work had visited Lebanon before the Israeli invasion.

"It is a country where what is legal and illegal is an afterthought to the needs of personal gain and ideological warfare," he added.

This source, who was not talking only about the hashish trade, spoke bluntly about the futility of expecting that there would be cooperation from the Lebanese authorities in eliminating — or even limiting — the hashish market.

"Each one of those 'respectable families' with their long traditions and devout religious beliefs is similar to those of the American mafia. Imagine 10 or 20 mafia families, all operating among one another, splitting up territory on the basis of force and negotiation," he said.

A western intelligence source was more blunt. "Surely the Israeli police are not so naive as to believe they'll be able to make any real progress with the Lebanese when it comes to hashish. After all, hashish is as vital to their economy as oranges are to ours," said the source, who outlined for *The Post* the way the various families — Jemayel, Franjeh, among others — earn their money from hash and other contraband.

Nevertheless, in the recent peace negotiations with Lebanon, the Israeli Police managed to have included a secret appendix calling for cooperation between the two countries in law enforcement.

According to one senior officer, "drugs are the number one problem." He says heroin is now being produced in Lebanon of better quality than the Turkish opiate.

An estimated 90 per cent of the drugs smuggled here from Lebanon come overland, mostly because of (Continued on page 4)

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18.7.1983	MIN	MAX	WIND	SEA
AMSTERDAM	10	20	25	77
BREITENBURG	10	20	25	77
BREMEN	10	20	25	77
COLOGNE	10	20	25	77
DORTMUND	10	20	25	77
DUISBURG	10	20	25	77
FRANKFURT	10	20	25	77
GENEVA	10	20	25	77
HAMBURG	10	20	25	77
KARLSRUHE	10	20	25	77
LEIPZIG	10	20	25	77
LONDON	10	20	25	77
MANNHEIM	10	20	25	77
MUNICH	10	20	25	77
OSLO	10	20	25	77
PARIS	10	20	25	77
RUHR	10	20	25	77
SALZBURG	10	20	25	77
STUTTGART	10	20	25	77
TORONTO	10	20	25	77
VIENNA	10	20	25	77
ZURICH	10	20	25	77

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THE WEATHER

Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
High	Low	High
Jerusalem	22	28
Golan	18	28
Nahariya	20	29
Safed	19	30
Haifa Port	20	28
Tiberias	21	35
Nazareth	21	30
Afula	21	31
Shomron	22	31
Tel Aviv	21	28
B-G Airport	20	30
Jericho	23	37
Gaza	20	28
Beersheva	21	32
Eilat	22	40

ARRIVALS

Sam Rotberg, general chairman, State of Israel Bonds, on his last and in connection with Hebrew University matters related to the Golda Meir Fellowship Fund.

Julian B. Venezky, national co-chairman for community leadership, State of Israel Bonds.

Rabbi Nissan Gordon, associate editor of the *Algemeine Jewish* in New York, after a week's visit to Israel, for a two-week visit, with Mrs. Gordon.

Soviet anti-Israel bias tied to fears of U.S. policy—Aloni

Jerusalem Post Staff

Soviet antipathy towards Israel seems to stem mainly from a strategic view which associates Israel with U.S. policy in Europe, which the Soviets fear will lead to war. MK Shulamit Aloni last night told *The Jerusalem Post* in a telephone conversation from Kiev.

Aloni (Alignment-Citizens' Rights) is visiting the Soviet Union as part of a delegation of Israelis invited by the government-sponsored Soviet Peace Committee.

At a meeting yesterday with members of the Kiev branch of the Peace Committee, Aloni told Prof. Ramadano, a member of the Supreme Soviet, that "Israel is not part of the U.S. There is a large peace camp in Israel and Zionism has many faces."

Aloni stressed that most Israelis feel that Israel is not part of the tensions between the East and West blocs. Most of the criticism she has encountered about Israel, she said, focuses on the Lebanese situation and supposed links with U.S. policy in Europe, but there is "no basic enmity" towards Israel among most of the people she has met.

JEMAYEL'S TRIP

(Continued from Page One)

to seek increased U.S. military aid to enable Lebanon's 30,000-man army to re-establish state authority, throughout the country, nearly two-thirds of which is now held by the Syrians, the Syrians and the Palestinians.

The station also said Jemayel will carry a complete file of Lebanon's economic situation and seek U.S. help in overcoming the current stagnation.

In Damascus, President Hafez Assad said yesterday that Syria will not alter its rejection of the Israeli-Lebanese troop withdrawal accord signed in May.

A presidential palace spokesman said Assad reaffirmed Syria's final rejection of the accord during a meeting with French parliamentarians. "There is no possibility that we will alter our position," he is quoted as saying.

Syria's government newspaper, *Tahrir* said yesterday Jemayel's trip would leave him ruler of his palace, and of nothing else.

This visit is aimed at handing over Lebanon to the U.S. and handing over South Lebanon to Israel, and nothing will be left in Lebanon but the palace," *Tahrir* commented. (AP, Reuters)

FRUIT. — Tel Aviv municipality yesterday began selling six tons of fruit at reduced prices to elderly persons. The fruit was bought from the Fruit and Vegetable Council, which has been destroying thousands of tons of excess fruit daily.

TISHA BE'AV MEMORIAL SERVICE

A special Tisha Be'Av service will be held in memory of the victims and martyrs of the Holocaust today, July 19, at 11:00 a.m., with prayers, readings and dedications.

Special presentation of a crematorium brick taken from Auschwitz and brought to the Chamber by survivor Lili Kopecky.

The public is invited. Service takes place at Chamber of the Holocaust, Israel's first memorial to the 6,000,000 Mt. Zion, Jerusalem. Buses 1 and 38. Tel. 718841.

HOME NEWS

Herzog praises Levy for 'refreshing atmosphere'

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — In a meeting here yesterday with the top command of the Israel Defence Forces, President Chaim Herzog praised Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy for "introducing a new and refreshing atmosphere" into the army.

Herzog's remark was seen as an indication that he thinks that Levy — in contrast with his controversial predecessor, Rafael Eitan — is doing the wise thing politically.

Herzog pegged his comments to Levy's appearance on Israel TV's Moked programme last Wednesday. Levy's words showed "a new effort to stress to the nation that the army belongs to the entire nation," Herzog said.

Turning to the IDF generals, Herzog said one of their "main tasks" was to strengthen the feeling

the army belonged to everybody. "You can't exaggerate the importance of this feeling. That's why I want to congratulate the CoS and encourage him to continue this way," Herzog added.

The president was greeted at GHQ by an honour guard representing the IDF branches. His closed meeting was with the heads of the army's commands, branches and the commanders of the Navy, Air Force, Tank Corps, Infantry and Paratroopers units.

Herzog was briefed on the army's plans and budget and given a report of the enemy's situation.

He was taken to the army's nerve centre of operations, where developments in the field were displayed. Herzog, who once headed military intelligence, said later he was "highly impressed by the level of sophistication."

Soviet police arrest 4 Jews at prayer

MOSCOW (AP). — Soviet police on Friday night broke up a Sabbath service held by young Moscow Jews, warning them they have no right to pray in groups except in a synagogue, and arrested four of the group members, a witness to the raid said yesterday.

The witness, who asked not to be identified, said the incident happened when about 15 Jews were gathered in a private apartment.

Several men dressed in plain clothes rushed into the flat, including one who identified himself as Maj. Mikhail Stepanov, the source said.

"He said it was a religious meeting and that we have no right" to such a gathering, the source said. "He said we are allowed to pray

only at the synagogue or alone in a flat, but that we had no right to invite someone to come celebrate the Sabbath."

The major said, "We shall not let you do what you want to do" several times, the source said, and "Until you leave this country, you will live by the rules of this country."

Three of the four arrested men have applied to emigrate to Israel, but have been refused permission.

The four taken into custody were Mark Feldman, 32, whose flat was being used, Igor Briskman, 24, Michael Abramov, 28, and Michael Rudman, 26. The source said they were later told by authorities that the four will be held for 15 days.

World campaign begins for refusednik

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer yesterday announced the start of an international campaign against the forthcoming trial of Soviet Jewish refusenik Yosef Begun, who faces charges of anti-Soviet activities.

Begun has been in prison since November last year. He has already served two jail sentences as a result of his efforts to teach Hebrew and his request to leave the Soviet Union for Israel.

A spokesman for Hammer said Prime Minister Menachem Begin will be requested to bring up the

subject of Begun's trial at a cabinet meeting. Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor will be asked to order a special Knesset session on the eve of the trial next month.

There are also to be demonstrations outside foreign embassies, and calls for support will be made to a number of international professional and political bodies.

Addressing the Public Committee for Yosef Begun yesterday, Hammer said the struggle was to save Begun and against attempts by the Soviets to stop expressions of Jewish culture and the learning of Hebrew.

Man killed by rotors of overturned 'copter

MOSHAV KIDRON (JTA). — A 55-year-old member of Moshav Kidron was killed yesterday near Moshav Meholah when he was struck by the rotors of a helicopter.

Menahem Freitl died after a civilian helicopter being used by oil prospectors overturned on landing.

In a traffic accident north of Ashkelon yesterday, a Gaza resident, whose identity police have not released, was killed.

Israel denies it wants to produce U.S. tank

The Defence Ministry yesterday denied a report that Israel wants to locally produce the American M-1 tank. It was commenting on an *International Herald Tribune* report, quoting a U.S. information centre, which said Israel has already requested permission to produce the M-1.

The American tank is similar to the Israeli-made Merkava. Nahman Shai, the defence minister's media adviser, issued a statement yesterday saying Israel intends to continue producing the Merkava — and not the M-1.

Israel leads Brazil in women's tennis

Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel took a 1-0 lead against Brazil yesterday in the first round of the Federation Cup, the world team tennis championship for women in Zurich, when Rakfet Binyamin scored a brilliant 6-0, 6-2 victory over her opponent Monteiro.

After defeating Taiwan 3-0 in the preliminary round, Israel now needs to win one more of the two remaining matches to go through to the second round of the competition, for the first time in 11 outings to date.

If Israel beats Brazil, its next opponent is Britain. The two countries have already met twice in the Federation Cup in the last three years, with the strong UK team winning 3-0 on each occasion. (Earlier story, Page 4)

J'lem traffic rerouted

Jerusalem Post Reporter

New traffic arrangements at the entrance to Jerusalem were introduced yesterday morning without any special hitches or traffic jams inside the city.

The arrangement, which involves rerouting traffic leaving Jerusalem in the direction of Tel Aviv, is part of a plan to redesign the entrance to the capital and ease the flow of traffic in and out of the city.

However, there was more than the usual congestion on the approaches to the city from Tel Aviv. Traffic was bumper to bumper until after 10 a.m.

UNIFIL mandate extended until October 19

UNITED NATIONS (AP). — After a personal appeal from Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem, the UN Security Council yesterday decided to keep its peacekeeping troops in Southern Lebanon for another three months, until October 19.

The vote was 13-0, with the Soviet Union and Poland abstaining.

The resolution extending the mandate of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) also "calls

upon all parties concerned" to cooperate with UNIFIL "for the full implementation of its mandate" as defined in earlier council decisions.

Salem told the council that Israel's June 1982 invasion and subsequent events in his country had intensified Lebanon's problems, exacerbated tension in the region and "now pitted Syrian and Israeli forces against each other to a more threatening and more ominous manner than ever before."

REAGAN-JEMAYEL

(Continued from Page One)

reporters that the U.S., in recent contacts, had merely "informed" Moscow of America's diplomatic efforts, "but there have been no negotiations between the U.S. and USSR regarding the situation in the Middle East."

Hughes called the Soviet role in Lebanon "not very helpful."

On Sunday, the visiting Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem said it

was "absolutely essential" for the U.S. to bring the Soviets into the negotiations. He also urged the administration to open discussions with Syria on the future of the Golan Heights and other issues.

"The Syrians have major concerns only the United States can address," Salem said. "Their concern is that whatever relates to Israel, they can only discuss with the United States. For example, the prospect of war and peace between Syria and Israel, the status of the Golan Heights and all the other problems relating to Israel or to the solution of the Middle East problem, the question of the Palestinians."

U.S. officials said they had no plans to bring the Golan into the negotiations. They insisted they were consulting with Israel on all aspects of the diplomatic efforts.

Fusion reactor could 'breed' conventional nuclear fuel

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The firm seeking to set up an experimental nuclear fusion reactor in Israel is planning to develop a version of the reactor whose by-products can be used as fuel in conventional nuclear reactors.

The plan to build a "fusion/fission hybrid" reactor is revealed in a letter sent recently by American nuclear physicist Prof. Edward Teller to Minister of Science and Development Yuval Ne'eman. The letter was sent following a visit by Teller to the firm behind the project, the International Energy Systems Company (INESCO) of La Jolla, California.

The project involves setting up two experimental fusion reactors,

called "Riggatrons," in California and Israel, at a cost of \$300 million. The Ministerial Committee on Science and Technology recently turned down a request by potential Israeli investors in the project to provide a state guarantee of half of their possible \$50m. investment.

The Riggatron is billed by its developers as a short-cut to achieving nuclear fusion, the process that releases enormous amounts of energy as the nuclei of hydrogen atoms are fused at temperatures of 100,000,000 degrees Centigrade. Most scientists believe that commercial applications of the fusion concept are at least several decades away.

In his letter, Teller says that "INESCO is planning an application of a fusion/fission hybrid. This,

in general, is a good idea."

The hybrid concept involves using the high-speed neutrons released from the fusion of hydrogen atoms in the core of the reactor as triggers for a fission process. The neutrons would bombard appropriate isotopes of thorium or uranium placed in a "breeding blanket" around the core, setting off fission reactions in which the atoms of the thorium or uranium would be split. The end-product can be used for fuel in conventional nuclear reactors.

Teller, however, notes that the design of the Riggatron makes it likely that the neutrons would be "slowed down into a regime where they are much less effective" by the time they reach the breeding

blanket. Nevertheless, Teller says that "the connection between the Riggatron and the hybrid deserves attention."

Ne'eman's analysis of the Riggatron design has led him to conclude that the reactor would probably be more useful for research than for eventual energy production. He opposes extending state guarantees to the potential investors, but welcomes the INESCO project as an opportunity for Israeli scientists to gain experience in fusion research.

Teller concludes after weighing the possible gains and financial risks of the project that "I cannot make a clear-cut statement whether the results will justify the assumption of this burden in Israel's present critical situation."



Eliezer Ben-Elissar (left) and Yitzhak Rabin (centre) in conversation with a Hebron Arab during a visit to the city yesterday by the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee. (Zamir-Scoop 80)

Rabin: 'Arik gave 3 different replies about taking Sidon'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin says Labour Party leaders were told of the government's plan for a large-scale operation in Lebanon a month before it took place.

In an interview published in the latest issue of *Monita*, a weekly magazine, Rabin says that then defence minister Ariel Sharon gave three different answers when asked whether Sidon was to be occupied, and clearly said Beirut was not to be taken.

"In May (Prime Minister Menachem) Begin called us and said the cabinet had decided not to launch a limited operation if (terrorists) attacked, but to take action to remove the danger from the northern settlements," Rabin recalled.

"Arik (Sharon) attended that meeting, too, and I asked him whether Sidon is within the plan or not."

"Arik gave three answers to this question, and it was clear he did not want to tell the truth," Rabin continued. "He told me: 'I think so,' then he said: 'I'll go out to check,' and left the room in the middle of the conference to check whether Sidon is included in the plan or not. He returned and said: 'Not included.' Then he left again, returned and said: 'Sidon is included.'"

Rabin said he "of course" asked Sharon whether Beirut was to be taken too. "Arik created the impression Sidon was the limit (of the Israeli advance). I asked him whether Beirut was included and the answer was 'no.'"

BURG SAYS 'NO'

(Continued from Page One)

demonstrate at the same time as the dawn rally in Jerusalem.

The endorsement of the rally by the Eda's leading rabbis means thousands will turn out for the demonstration, Mea She'arim sources said.

The police have been approached by the Eda's secretariat, asking for a licence for the demonstration, but police sources said that it is "highly unlikely" that it will be given. The police, however, said they would not interfere with a half-hour prayer rally at that time. "Nothing more," said a senior police source.

"Besides the problem of the demonstration being held at 4 a.m., after last week's events I don't think we'll be giving a licence," said one senior police source in Jerusalem.

Rumours were rife in Mea She'arim that after the rally there would be a march to the Russian Compound to protest against "police brutality."

"We certainly won't be able to allow thousands of religious zealots to descend on the compound," said the police source.

Meanwhile, Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapira and Mordechai Eliahu, implicitly approved Education Minister Zevulun Hammer's granting of an excavation licence at Area G, according to the Education Ministry. The ministry published a statement by the rabbis saying Hammer had won the approval of both the Atra Kadisha burial society and "rabbis in Jerusalem and Bnei Brak" for the terms of the licence.

Atra Kadisha had feared, the ministry says, that if it had not agreed with the limitations of Hammer's licence, the archeologists could have appealed to the High Court of Justice which might have allowed them to dig without provisos. It was Atra Kadisha, the ministry claims, that suggested to Hammer that the dig be limited to the section being dug in Area G, and that this section be separated by a wall from the area they say is an ancient cemetery.

Mea She'arim sources have told *The Jerusalem Post* that the Atra Kadisha is "heavily involved" in the current protests by the ultra-Orthodox community against the dig.

Atra Kadisha has demanded that the ministry put up a stone wall demarcating the area which cannot be dug. The ministry says it put up a "sturdy" wooden fence. The demand for a stone fence was the real reason for last week's riots, the ministry says, and not claims that the archeologists were desecrating graves. The ministry says it will put up a stone wall later, but meanwhile has stationed two special inspectors there to ensure that the archeologists do not violate the terms of their licence.

The chief rabbis yesterday published a statement deploring the violence in Mea She'arim, condemning, but without mentioning by name the Eda Haredi's militancy.

About 5,000 *haredim* gathered in Jerusalem's Gush quarter last night for a quiet protest meeting against the dig, the Atra G dig, the nearby Edison cinema and several other issues.

Members of the Satmar Hasidic community patrolled the streets of the neighbourhood to prevent the large crowd from blocking traffic near Kikar Shabbat. From time to time, speakers on a podium in a large yard behind the street asked the crowd to keep the peace and not spill over into the street.

About 6,000 ultra-Orthodox demonstrators gathered in the Ponevezh yeshiva in Bnei Brak yesterday to protest against the archeological dig, *him* reported.

Restrictions on U.S. warplane sales

WASHINGTON (JTA). — The Reagan administration said yesterday that it will not sell U.S. advanced military aircraft to any Persian Gulf state with the exceptions of Saudi Arabia and Oman.

The Panel of Airline Representatives in Israel

deeply mourns the passing of

ISIDORE (ITCHE) RUBINSTEIN

Representative of Sabena Airlines in Canada

and express condolences to the bereaved family.

SABENA Belgian Airlines

its management and employees in Israel

announce with deep regret the passing of

ADOLF I. RUBINSTEIN

Manager of Sabena Canada and former Manager of Sabena Israel

Our condolences to the family

The funeral will take place tomorrow, Wednesday, July 20, 1983 at 1.00 p.m. at the Kiryat Shaul Cemetery.

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of my dear husband, our father and grandfather

LOTHAR PREUSS

The funeral took place yesterday, July 18, 1983, at Holon Cemetery. Please refrain from condolence visits.

The mourners:
Wife: Ruth
Children: Michael, Yochanan, Rachel, Nurit
Grandchildren, and all the family

To Professor Gad Alon
President, The Shenkar College of Textile Technology and Fashion

We join in your sorrow on the passing of your beloved father.

ERNST EIGHENBERG

THE SHENKAR COLLEGE OF TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY AND FASHION

Dr. Alec Lerner,
Chairman, Board of Governors
The Board of Governors, Administration, Academic Staff and Personnel

Reverend SHOLOM SEGAL

died suddenly on Monday, July 18, 1983.

The funeral will leave today, Tisha Be'Av at 12 noon from the Bialik, Netanya, for the Shikun Vatikim cemetery. Shiva at above address.

Budget cuts not 'miracle drug'—Moda'i

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i yesterday said that the budget cuts proposed by Finance Minister Yoram Aridor are not a "miracle drug" for curing the country's economic ills, and that other steps are needed.

Speaking at a floating press conference on a ministry research vessel on the Dead Sea, Moda'i said that cutting the state budget was a necessary, but not sufficient, step towards recovery.

At Sunday's cabinet meeting, Moda'i reportedly described the economic situation as "catastrophic," and demanded a full-scale cabinet debate on the issue. This request was granted by Prime Minister Menachem Begin following initial resistance by Aridor.

The basic problem of excess spending power could be attacked, Moda'i said, by a combination of "drastic" credit restrictions, a more rapid devaluation rate leading to a "realistic exchange rate," and "ruthless cuts" in subsidies and welfare benefits for those who do not need them.

While Moda'i granted that there is probably some waste in the defence budget that could be cut away, he said that specific cuts would depend on the situation in Lebanon. He said that budget cuts must be selective and not across-the-board.

He said that Israel's taxes are already among the highest in the world, and could not be raised further without stifling the motivation to work. Raising taxes is not necessary for economic recovery, he said, if other steps are adopted.

Treasury sources said yesterday that Aridor would continue his policy of not conducting a debate on the economy through news media. He would save his response to Moda'i for the cabinet table, the sources said.

Aridor kills tax on car air conditioners

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The purchase tax on automobile air conditioners will be abolished in a few days, following a decision yesterday by Finance Minister Yoram Aridor. This step is expected to reduce the price of air conditioners by 5 to 7 per cent.

The tax will be abolished on car air conditioners produced in this country or imported as a single unit and purchased for installation, but not on units pre-installed in vehicles.

The Treasury explained yesterday that because of Israel's climate, automobile air conditioners are a safety item. Thus, says the ministry, the tax revocation will aid in reducing road accidents.

Teachers of Jewish topics meet in capital

Jerusalem Post Reporter

More than 90 teachers from 62 universities in 15 countries are taking part this month in workshops organized by the International Centre for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization, operating under the auspices of Beit Hanassi in Jerusalem.

The workshops are on teaching literary Hebrew, Jewish political studies, Sephardi history and culture, and Israeli society.

The first symposium, on the ethnic dimension in Israeli society, will be held at 3 p.m. tomorrow.

All sessions are at the Holyland Hotel in Jerusalem.



Prime Minister Menachem Begin is greeted yesterday by Moshe Barlevy, the head of a delegation of veterans of the Etzel and Lehi movements, on the occasion of Begin's 70th birthday on Thursday according to the Jewish calendar. (Rahamim Israeli)

X-ray technicians call off sanctions

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The nation's 900 X-ray technicians yesterday voted to hold off any further labour actions while negotiations on their demands are proceeding satisfactorily.

This means that yesterday's one-day sanctions, called to enable technicians to attend a national meeting in Tel Aviv during work hours, will "probably be the last step we take for a while," union leader Naim Ramati told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The sanctions forced the closure of X-ray units in neighbourhood and hospital outpatient clinics and left hospitals throughout the country with only a "Shabbat staff" to handle urgent cases. No serious incidents were reported.

"We have already reached agreement with the employers on several points. Other problems, such as our main demand to shorten our work week to 30 hours to reduce our exposure to dangerous radiation, have been referred to committees for further study," Ramati said.

Shinui will contest TA elections

By CAROL COOK
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Shinui will field a list of candidates for the Tel Aviv City Council in October's municipal elections, and hopes to displace the religious minority in the city administration, the party's mayoral candidate, MK Mordechai Virshupski, said yesterday.

A Shinui survey of Tel Aviv residents showed that 61 per cent of voters do not want representatives of the religious parties to be involved in running city hall, Virshupski told a press conference. He said he would work for public

transport and cultural events on the Sabbath; a solution to the traffic problem; an overall development plan for Tel Aviv; improved conditions for the elderly and for residents of south Tel Aviv; and more responsible administration at city hall.

Virshupski said this was the first time Shinui was participating in the Tel Aviv elections. A Tel Aviv resident since 1939, he was legal adviser to city hall between 1966-77.

Virshupski said that parties represented in the Knesset, including Shinui, should pay for their own municipal election campaigns.

MK wants action against employers

Post Knesset Correspondent

A Liberal MK has urged the defence and finance ministers to take punitive measures against employers who dismiss workers called to reserve duty.

Ariel Weinstein (Likud-Liberals) wrote Moshe Arens and Yoram Aridor yesterday, saying that such employers, who he said were becoming far too numerous nowadays, should not only be prosecuted under the existing law, but should also be blacklisted by any government departments with which they might have dealings.

Weinstein said there was no reason why the taxpayers' money should be used to purchase goods or services from employers who violated the law and made reservists feel the home front was letting them down.

The names of such employers should be published in the news media, Weinstein said. The fact that the Israel Defence Forces spokesman issued a special announcement urging reservists dismissed or threatened with dismissal, to file a formal complaint, showed the matter was serious, Weinstein told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

Patt hits coalition critics of gov't

Jerusalem Post Reporter

DALIA AL-CARMEL. — Coalition critics of the government's economic policy came under fire yesterday from Trade and Industry Minister Gideon Patt.

Speaking to reporters during a visit to this Druze village, Patt said he had yet to hear any constructive suggestions from the critics who include Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i and Likud MK Yigael Cohen-Orgad.

Patt said that if positive proposals

were put forward, he felt sure that Finance Minister Yoram Aridor would be only too happy to consider them.

Patt defended the present economic strategy, saying the government had "got its priorities right. One of these was to maintain the current level of employment."

Patt was guest of honour at the official opening of a branch here of the Israel Consumer Council. It is the council's first branch in a Druze or Arab village.

Herut Party funds financed TA student leaders, court told

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Herut Party gave money to the chairman of the Tel Aviv University Students' Union, which was run by Likud activists for over a decade, until the recent union elections, it was stated in court yesterday.

Former union chairman Eli Kraus, on trial at Tel Aviv District Court on 13 charges, including accepting bribes, fraud, stealing union funds and extortion also confirmed that the union gave the franchise of its cafeteria to Michael Avisroor, a Herut activist as compensation for Avisroor's expulsion from the university after he burned a car on campus.

The franchise was given to Avisroor without a tender, as required by the law and without any written agreement, he testified.

Kraus was cross-examined yesterday about the allegation that he took \$2,500 (NIS25,000) from the director of the students' press workshop Eli Hauven, in exchange for prolonging Hauven's appointment.

Kraus maintained that he was offered the money, which did not come from Hauven's pocket but from the Herut movement, and that the money had nothing to do with prolonging

Hauven's appointment.

"Hauven offered me money from the Herut movement, because the other union chairman before me also received funds from them," Kraus said.

"You mean the Herut Party bribed union chairman?" asked prosecutor Dvora Berioer. "Why do you ask that?" intervened Judge David Wallach. "Tomorrow we'll read in the newspapers that Mezuat Ze'ev (Herut headquarters) told him to burn cars" (He was referring to an article published in *Ha'aretz* quoting Avisroor as saying that he had burned the car on instructions from Herut headquarters).

"I understood Hauven was going to give me money which he would get from the party," replied Kraus. He added that he saw nothing wrong with it. "It was all part of the game. Nobody supported anyone for nothing," he said.

Kraus told the court that during the first month of his appointment as union chairman, in October 1981, the union fell apart, the council did not meet, the committee members resigned and he was left alone.

Kraus admitted that although the union was not functioning several union workers con-

tinued to receive salaries, including his secretary, his accountant, cashiers, barmen, ushers and others.

Kraus said that Hauven had set him up for the bribe charge, as a service to the university management, which wanted Kraus out of the way so it could set up a new students union on its own terms. The university had divested the union of all its authority before Kraus's appointment, following the cheating discovered in the previous student union elections. In return for Hauven's act, Kraus said, his position as press workshop director was guaranteed forever.

Kraus is also charged with demanding a bribe from Israel Student Travel Association (ISSTA) director Ya'akov Hilineon, in exchange for his assistant and Haim Tyro's support for Hilineon against a rival faction in ISSTA. It was alleged that on taking the bribe from Hauven, Kraus was recorded on tape as saying that for "the same arrangement," he would support Hilineon. Kraus denied this charge yesterday, saying that when he said the "same arrangement" he was referring to Hilineon's recognition of him as union chairman and ISSTA board member.

Protest vigil, demonstration in Hebron

By MICHAEL ELIEN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The army has allowed members of the Committee for Solidarity with Birzeit to hold a five-person protest vigil outside the gates of the civilian government headquarters in Hebron.

The vigil will be held in tandem with a demonstration by residents of Kiryat Arba who have camped out at the site ever since Aharon Gross was stabbed to death in the Hebron market on July 7.

Raya Rothem, spokeswoman for the committee, said yesterday that agreement on the vigil at Hebron was reached in a meeting between members of the committee and Aluf Ori Orr, OC Central Command. Before Orr gave his permission, five members of the committee were arrested on Sunday and later freed after they tried to put up a tent near the civilian government building.

Another member of the committee, Yusuf Iawi, an Israeli Arab from Tel Aviv, was also arrested yesterday, but freed later.

Rothem spoke during a demonstration staged by the committee in Jerusalem yesterday.

About 200 turned up for the demonstration near Hamashbir building under heavy police protection.

Members of the committee distributed leaflets protesting against plans to allow more Jews to settle in central Hebron, and saying that the Kiryat Arba settlers and the government were responsible for the recent wave of violence and tension in Hebron.

The Peace Now movement yesterday also informed Orr that it plans a sit-in strike and, if necessary, a mass demonstration in Hebron if the city's market and bus station are turned over to the settlers.

Leaders of the movement are due to meet the new coordinator of activities in the territories, Tal-Aluf (res.) Benjamin ("Fuad") Be'elezer, today to establish whether there are plans to expand the Jewish presence in Hebron.

TA man detained for having fake U.S. bills

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A local

shopkeeper was detained yesterday for possessing \$4,200 in counterfeit \$100 bills, and jewelry and watches believed stolen, police said. The money was found wrapped in newspaper in the suspect's beverage shop in Shechunat Shapiro, police said. The shopkeeper, 43, reported-

ly told police he found the money in the street. But police suspect him of being a dealer in counterfeit currency.

The jewelry and watches were found in the man's house in Tel Kabir, police said. The suspect reportedly told police he bought them.

Video cassettes, jewels stolen at Lod

LOD (Itim). — Thieves took video cassettes worth about IS750,000 from a store here on Saturday, police said. No suspects have been arrested. In another case, jewels valued at IS300,000 were stolen on Saturday from a store.

The burglars drilled a hole through the rear wall of the store, cracked a large safe, and made off with the gems. The theft was discovered on Sunday.

Two suspects are being held.

El Al puts new \$50 million Boeing 767 into sky

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — El Al flight 1818 (double *hai* in honour of the airline's forthcoming 36th anniversary) touched down at 3:30 p.m. yesterday after taking off from London on the airline's Boeing 767 inaugural flight. More than 1,000 cheering persons — most of them El Al workers and their families — were on the tarmac to welcome the new \$50 million aircraft, the first of four 767s that will replace El Al's Boeing 707s on the Israel-Europe routes. ("18" is the numerical equivalent of the word *hai* which means "life.")

"The sleek new plane, quieter and more comfortable than the 707, was picked up by an El Al crew in Seattle, Washington, on Saturday night. The receiving party included El Al general director Rafi Harlev, who was handed the keys to the plane by Boeing Commercial Airplane Company president Richard Welch. He said Boeing appreciated the "relationship of trust" El Al had placed in his company by deciding

to become the first European carrier to buy the 767.

The two-engine, wide-body 767 was chosen over the French Airbus and is powered by two Pratt and Whitney engines developing 48,000 pounds of thrust. It has a range of 2,700 miles and its fully loaded maximum takeoff weight is 315,000 lbs. Although this range now limits it to European and nearby African cities, the third and fourth 767s to be delivered to El Al next year will be of the ER (extended range) type, and will be used for transatlantic flights if U.S. aviation authorities certify it for such use.

The 767 does not require a navigator, its two pilots employing digital computerized flight systems and a laser gyroscope.

In an in-flight news conference after takeoff from Seattle, Harlev told reporters that El Al stands to lose between \$17m. and \$35m. this fiscal year because the government prohibits it from operating on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. "As of now, we see no chance of a change in the no-Sabbath flights policy," he said.

Trade with Lebanon down \$1 m.

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — Israeli exports to Lebanon last month totalled about \$1 million less than several months ago, experts say. They attribute the drop to three factors:

- Pressure on Lebanese merchants by Lebanese wholesalers who believe their own business is hurt by the merchants buying supplies from Israel.
- Physical attacks on Lebanese merchants dealing with Israel, especially on watermelon dealers in

Nabatieh.

- Pressure from Arab states, especially Saudi Arabia, who threatened to cut off trade relations with Lebanon if the Lebanese continue to trade with Israel.

The head of the IDF civilian relations unit in Lebanon, Shaul Nuriel, said that even if the IDF goes ahead with the plan for a partial withdrawal in Lebanon, this will not reduce the remaining trade. He believes Lebanese merchants in the Beirut area will continue to do business with Israel.

Officials ponder case of Polish divorcee

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Interior Ministry is deciding what to do with a Polish Catholic divorcee who immigrated to Israel on the basis of a fictitious marriage to an Israeli seaman.

The woman divorced her husband after falling in love with a Polish seaman. The couple tried unsuccessfully to leave Poland, and the man asked an Israeli seaman he knew for help, in exchange for money. The Israeli then sent the woman papers stating he wished to marry her and the papers served as the basis for the Polish authorities issuing a marriage certificate and emigration visa. The woman, around 30, and her daughter left

their country last August. Meanwhile, the Polish seaman disappeared. The Israeli seaman, who lives in Acre and had been married just two months before the incident, has asked that his identity be kept secret because his wife does not know about the affair.

The Polish woman was given an immigrant certificate as well as the usual grants and other assistance. She and her daughter are living in a government-subsidized apartment in Kiryat Ata, and are receiving other help from the Catholic church in Haifa.

When the Interior and Absorption Ministries learned that she is not married to a Jew and immigrated under false pretenses, it

was decided to revoke her immigrant status. But the Absorption Ministry will extend her unemployment pay and rental subsidies for another six months.

The Interior Ministry has been delaying its decision, aware that the granting of permanent residence could set a precedent and that the deception could be used by other non-Jews to emigrate from totalitarian countries and settle in Israel.

The Israeli seaman, who is listed in the population registry as the husband of the Polish woman and of his Israeli wife, can be arrested for bigamy if his Polish "wife" sues him.

Special education congress to begin Monday

By LEA LEVAVI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Should plastic surgery be used to improve the outward appearance and social acceptability of individuals suffering from Down's syndrome?

This is one of the questions which will be discussed at the fourth international congress of the European Association for Special Education (EASE) at the Astoria Hotel here next Monday through Thursday.

"A few years ago, nobody even would have thought about improving the image of these people if you cannot improve their mental functioning," Dr. Emanuel Chiger, Secretary-General of the Israel Rehabilitation Association, told reporters at a press conference here yesterday. "The idea is controversial, but it implies a growing

awareness of the need to help individuals with disabilities live more fully in so-called normal society."

The congress theme is "special education and social handicap." Subjects to be discussed will include how teachers in special education can teach their pupils social skills, the need for sex education for disabled children and adolescents, sport as a means of integrating the disabled child into the society of his non-disabled peers, and ways to educate non-disabled children about their disabled agemates.

A French lecturer will talk about "religious identification and disability." "Apparently, if you are a Jew in France and have a disability, your fellow Jews will consider you disabled and your fellow disabled will consider you a Jew," Dr. Chiger

said, calling it "a case of a minority within a minority."

Professor Shimon Zaks, director of special education in the Education Ministry, used the opportunity to warn against possible budget cuts in services to the country's approximately 75,000 special education pupils, and to those who will need special education tomorrow.

"Until two years ago, if there were 10 children in a given locality who needed special education services, or one child for that matter, there was never any problem. Now, we live from hand to mouth," Zaks said. "The director-general has promised, and has kept the promise, that he will come to our aid whenever we need money for special needs. However, the fact is today we have to prioritize; we do not have the money for everything."

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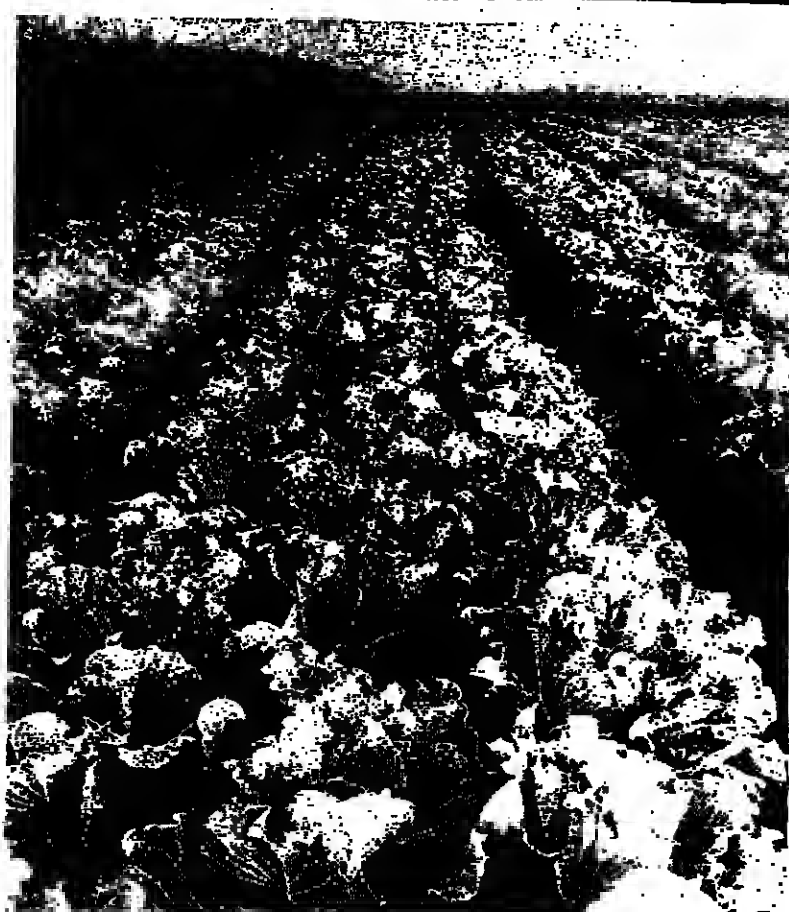
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Major prize-winners in this year's photographic exhibition by students at the Hadassah Community College, Jerusalem, are Deganit Braude (whose work is pictured right) and Irit Halpern (whose work is above). Nearly 300 works by the 45 students of photography are on show. Meanwhile, the 21 graduating students are presenting a special

audio-visual display of sights in Achziv. The two-year course at the Hadassah Community College is headed by David Harris and offers a broad-based curriculum covering all aspects of scientific and commercial photography. The exhibition of students' work will be on show at the college until July 21.



MODERN medicine's ability to revive many people who are declared clinically dead has proved a boon to those who hunger for knowledge about the after-life. In recent years the subject has generated much discussion; perhaps Raymond Moody's *Life After Life* is the best-known of the many books on the subject.

Dr. Moody's book and others like it record the experiences of hundreds of clinically dead people who were brought back to life. What most of these "returnees," as they are called, have in common is a pleasant memory of being taken through a "tunnel of light," at the end of which they were met by a "celestial being" who received them with great benevolence.

Almost all of the returnees describe the experience in very positive terms. Of the few who report negative experiences, a recurrent memory is of being chased by wolves.

It is of course intriguing that people in various parts of the world have reported these remarkably similar after-death experiences. What has been made known only recently is that people in past ages have reported exactly the same thing.

In fact, almost identical visions, but with the stress on the religious aspect, are widely recorded in medieval literature. Apparently very little has changed in man's vision of the after-life during the 500 years since then.

PROFESSOR Peter Dinzelsbacher, an expert on medieval and ancient history from the University of Stuttgart, West Germany, delivered a paper on the subject at an international congress on "Learned and Popular Culture" held at Haifa University this month.

DOUBLE VISION

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER / Jerusalem Post Reporter

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, the 35-year-old scholar explained how medieval "visions," usually by people on their death-beds who somehow recovered, (the clinically dead of yesterday), were also preoccupied with what happened to the soul when the body dies. In medieval manuscripts, many illuminated by vivid pictures, he found how the soul was seen to pass to purgatory, heaven or hell.

In the popular conception the "good soul" is carried away from the body by angels to heaven, while the bad soul is dragged into hell by demons, many of them in ferocious animal form, like the modern pursuing wolves. In the records of unusual visions, the soul is carried away by chariot or ship. In one Finnish manuscript the bad soul is obliged to ski to hell.

A recurring image in the recorded visions is that of a bridge the soul must cross. The good soul gets across easily as the bridge expands to become wider and wider, taking it safely over the seas of fire and dragons below. The bad soul on the other hand finds the bridge narrowing until it falls off into the flames. The bridge theme, Dinzelsbacher noted, also appears in Jewish and Islamic tradition. He was interested to hear that in Israel the saying of the Hassidic Rabbi

Nahman of Bratslav, "Kooch tuch that this world is but a narrow bridge," has become a popular song, set to Hassidic-style music.

HE TRACED the origins of these after-life visions to two independent sources, oriental and Celtic. "These visions recorded on manuscripts fill a need of human beings to feel that this often unjust life on earth, where the good often suffer and the bad flourish, must be recompensed in an after-life, where sin and virtue will get their just rewards." There is also the need for vengeance for the oppressed and underprivileged in this life, to be experienced in an after-life, he said.

In the learned or literate culture, the ship, the chariot, and the ladder to heaven occur frequently in these visions, which he finds are a sort of religious ecstasy. The ladder of course comes from Jacob's dream. But in the literate culture these means of transit to heaven appear as allegories of man's life on earth, he said. The ladder for instance has each rung representing a virtue, from humility to good deeds to loving one's neighbor, which will take one to heaven.

The popular traditions of after-life turned up again in folk beliefs and with story-tellers of the 19th and early 20th centuries. The narrow bridge of the literate tradition actually made its appearance in

cheap prints that were popular in Scandinavia, and were hung in many houses, until this century, Dinzelsbacher stated.

Medieval literature comprises "very many records of people who were dying, and were in fact thought to be dead, who recovered and told of their experience." These ecstatic visions tell of their having been shown different parts of the "other world," purgatory and paradise, with different pains suffered by sinners and rewards for the good souls.

He has found some manuscripts that actually record experiences virtually identical with those of today's returnees from clinical death. "But due to the great religiosity of those times, the 'celestial being' was then identified as Jesus Christ, or some Christian saint, and the 'tunnel of light' as the way to Paradise."

Today's visions no longer need the religious aspect, he said. The masses hardly crave religion as opium when opium and other drugs are widely available.

But was it not odd that the physicians and psychologists who investigate the phenomenon of these visions today appear to be unaware that they are, so to say, *deja vu*, as much as 500 years ago? Dinzelsbacher speculated that these specialists may not have the time to read old Latin and medieval manuscripts. He himself had written a book about the medieval visions and visionary literature which was published in 1981, but its 1,000-copy edition is perused only by scholars of history, he said.

HE NOTED that Jewish tradition also involves after-life visions in the apocalyptic literature dating from about 200 B.C.E. to 200 C.E. This literature came down to us in Greek, due to the Hellenization of that period. Tales of visions also oc-

cur in the ancient Greek literature, but not in the Roman, Dinzelsbacher stressed.

"The Romans were too down to earth, with no room for fantasies. Their religion was concerned with daily life on earth and not with speculations about after-life." Philosophy in any event was not a Roman art, and if any concern in this area was recorded, such as by Cicero, it usually came from the Greek tradition and not from their own, he said.

Dinzelsbacher said that most of the material he has studied "stems from real experiences" of people who survived their death-beds and in some cases barely missed being buried alive because they had been considered dead. "These experiences may well have been embellished by the writers who recorded them. But I believe that the people who had the visions really believed them."

As in the past, today's visions too are an expression of the hope for a life better than most of us have on this side, mixed with a wish for punishment of the bad, especially those who are bad to us. Dinzelsbacher noted that many medieval visionaries saw popes, both incumbents and their predecessors, in hell, together with bishops, princes and kings. Even priests had such visions, he reported.

Today many people have discarded religion — which may even be said to be clinically dead — yet their visions somehow retain elements of religiosity, the celestial being, the bright light, the uplift.

"We can't discard 2,000 years of Christianity," the Professor noted. "It's ingrained in our genes, even if we mentally reject it."

Another way of explaining it may be the adage, "In a foxhole there are no atheists."



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Reflections on the 'black fast'

By DAVID GEFFEN / Special to The Jerusalem Post

THEY STREAM to the Western Wall by the thousands. Some sit on the ground in front of the Wall and intone the Book of Lamentations as Jews have done for generations. Others stand and gaze at the Wall, which is the only remnant of the Temple of old.

Young and old, Sephardim and Ashkenazim, Israelis and Jews from all over the world — they approach the Kotel on the eve of Tisha B'Av reidentifying themselves with the totality of Jewish history, its tragedies and its triumphs.

In Jewish tradition Tisha B'Av has come to be known as the "Black Fast," in contrast to Yom Kippur, the "White Fast." The most striking way in which this is emphasized is that in many Sephardi synagogues, a black curtain is placed over the ark containing the Torah, whereas on Yom Kippur white ark covers are used. However, other customs pertaining to Tisha B'Av tend to re-emphasize this idea of darkness, sadness and gloom.

The Mishna in Rosh Hashanah 1.13 indicates that fasting on Tisha B'Av was observed even in Biblical

times. While some rabbis wanted to mark the destruction of the Temple by instituting total abstinence from the drinking of wine and the eating of meat, this was felt to be too stringent. Our ancestors perhaps sensed that too much mourning, in too intense a fashion, would not be healthy for the future development of the Jewish people.

Some of the traditional regulations which are observed during the fast of Tisha B'Av include, first and foremost, complete abstinence from food and drink. Bathing is forbidden, but one may minimally wash the face and hands for cleansing purposes. The use of perfumes or other types of fragrances is forbidden.

Two specific signs of mourning on Tisha B'Av are: not wearing leather shoes, and actually sitting on the ground or on a low stool during the services. There are many people today who even sprinkle their head with ashes — a reflection of an even

more ancient mourning custom. In addition to these basic prescriptions, various rituals and customs have made their way into the synagogue and into the service.

To create the atmosphere of sadness the lights in the synagogue are dimmed or turned off completely and candles are lit.

I recall my amazement when I first attended the Spanish-Portuguese synagogue in New York. It was Tisha B'Av and that magnificent sanctuary was completely dark except for the candles held by the congregants as they intoned Lamentations in a melody transmitted by generations of Sephardi Jews.

Since the Middle Ages it has been the practice not to wear *tallit* and *refilin* during the morning services of Tisha B'Av. Since these ritual objects are traditionally considered to be ornaments for the Jew, he refrains from wearing them at the normal time to the morning but instead puts them on at the afternoon service, thereby fulfilling the commandment that they must be worn every day except for certain holidays.

THE MOST POIGNANT part of the service centres around the recitation of the Book of Lamentations followed by the many *kinot* (dirges) specifically composed for the occasion. Senior members of the congregation normally chant Lamentations, emphasizing with the rise and fall in the voice the ancient trauma of the destruction of the Temple and the ghastly experiences of the Jerusalemites of that era.

The *kinot* pick up the themes of the book, but they refer to other tragic moments in Jewish history, in particular those which occurred in the Talmudic period and those linked to the medieval massacres of entire Jewish communities.

One particularly touching Sephardi *kinah* which I first recited at the Spanish and Portuguese synagogue in Montreal and have repeated annually at the Kotel since moving to Israel, is based on the Four Questions of the Passah Seder. "I will ask some questions of the holy congregation," this dirge begins. "Why on Passah do we eat matza and bitter herbs while this night all is bitterness..." The soulful

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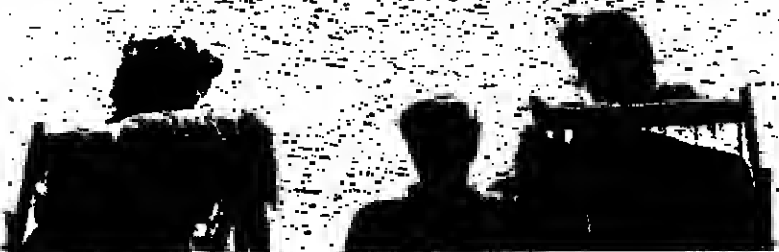
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A LIFETIME OF GUILT

By MEIR MERHAV / Post Bonn Correspondent

EARLIER this month, the 61-year-old chief editor of television in the Westdeutsche Rundfunk, Theo Maria Loch, asked for his early retirement. His past, as a former Waffen-SS man, had caught up with him.

The supervisory board accepted Loch's request and expressed its understanding for his situation during the war, and his contributions to the democratic reconstruction of the Federal Republic.

Loch's enforced request for early retirement brought to an end a storm of protest among the editorial staff on the West German Broadcasting Service, who had been unaware of their chief editor's history. So had, apparently, the supervisory board, which would not have approved Loch's appointment in 1977 had they been apprised of the facts by the director of the service, Friedrich Wilhelm von Sell, who had known them.

One board member, the Social Democrat Heinz Kuehn, a former premier of North Rhine Westphalia and a member of the resistance against Hitler, had even been interviewed by Loch himself in a television series, *Witnesses of the Time*, late last year. In that programme, the Third Reich was reviewed through the reminiscences of surviving eyewitnesses.

The facts about Theo Loch are that in 1940, at the age of 18, he volunteered for the Waffen-SS, where he rose, towards the end of the war, to the rank of Hauptsturmfuehrer (first lieutenant) and became a company commander in the Leibstandarte, Hitler's personal guard regiment. He fought in Greece and Yugoslavia, and there are no charges against him of having been involved in atrocities.

When first joining the broadcasting service in 1969, he had correctly stated in his application form that he had served in the Waffen-SS, but on later occasions he had found it more convenient to state his war time rank as Oberleutnant, the Wehrmacht rank equivalent to that he held in the Waffen-SS.

THE IMMEDIATE source of the information about Loch that created the furore among the editorial staff of the Westdeutsche Rundfunk ("the station that screened *Holocaust* cannot have a man like Loch as chief editor") was an information bulletin distributed by the Communist Party, but it had already long ago been published by the neo-Nazi *National Zeitung*.

This rag, which is extremely careful to keep to this side of the law against neo-Nazi organizations and publications, makes a point of systematically exposing the Nazi past of political leaders and, particularly, of people active in the media, whose present views and activities are within the democratic framework.

Prominent among the many people so "exposed" for the crime of "overcoming their personal past by carrying on a dirty campaign against the German people" are the leader of the Social-Democratic opposition, Hans-Jochen Vogel, who was a member of the Hitler Youth. Excepted from exposure of this kind are only the prominent leaders who are at least arch conservatives.

The dismissal of the Theo Loch is no isolated instance. People with a distinctly "brown" past are being weeded out from, or prevented from assuming, positions of prominence when the post-war generation can directly bring its influence to bear.

In April last year, a department chief in the Bavarian Broadcasting Service, Andreas Schoenhuber, was dismissed under similar circumstances. Shortly before the March 6 elections, Werner Vogel, who was to be a Bundestag member of the Green Party, was forced to resign his mandate because he had been an officer in the SA — a fact he had not hidden, but which had remained unknown to most of his party colleagues.

THE CASE OF Theo Loch has

once again raised the question whether a man who in his youth had been a Nazi, even a fanatical believer, should carry that guilt for the rest of his life and be disqualified from holding public office or an otherwise prominent position, even if he has repented and has for years genuinely upheld democratic convictions.

Those affected feel particularly victimized when they compare themselves to the long line of politicians, judges, government officials, army officers, university professors, teachers and others with an active Nazi past who have studied German public life from the establishment of the Federal Republic until recent times, when age and death began to reduce their numbers.

What seems to be involved is not so much a belated process of weeding out former Nazis, and even less so an effort to mete out justice to those directly accused of crimes and atrocities, as the removal of an embarrassment by a younger generation that does not want to be burdened with the Nazi past, and that can do without the 60-year-olds who still hold influential positions.

This has nothing to do with the personal guilt or innocence of those directly affected.

Theo Loch is no Nazi and has demonstrated that for years. Neither is the 76-year-old Werner Vogel of the Greens, who has since his retirement devoted great efforts to help Turkish and other guest workers.

But for the generation that has grown up within a democratic system, and that wants to be done with the past to the point not only of not being held accountable for it, but even of erasing its memory, people like Theo Loch and Werner Vogel are an embarrassing reminder which, with the change of generations, can be dispensed without damage.

The 40-year-olds are capable of filling in for them.

THERE SEEMS to be, in this respect, a conspicuous difference of attitude between the generation that was born after the war or shortly before its end, and those who still experienced the Hitler regime in their adolescence.

Among the generation that is a decade or so older — those born around 1930 — there seems to be a much greater tendency to forgive the Nazi past, and to let those with a "brown" history become integrated into the democratic institutions of the Federal Republic.

The difference in attitude — with forgiveness and forgetfulness being more pronounced to the right of the centre of the political spectrum — seems to have to do with the fact that for those born around 1930, the Nazi regime is that of their fathers, while for those aged 30 to 40, it is the era of their grandfathers.

An example of this difference of attitude was given by Professor Kurt Biedenkopf, born 1930, once general secretary of the Christian Democratic Party, who was recently forced to step down from the post of leader of the opposition in Rhineland-Westphalia.

Last week, re-elected CDU chairman in Westphalia, he rallied to the defence of Theo Loch. He made the incontrovertible argument that, if ex-Communists are not to be barred from public employment, it is also inadmissible to disqualify a man because 40 years ago he was a member of the Waffen-SS. He added that the Waffen-SS had been nothing but an elite combat unit, and that membership in it required no excuse.

Prof. Biedenkopf overlooked the fact that the Waffen-SS also supplied the guards, torturers and executioners of the concentration camps and the infamous Einsatzkommandos.

WHAT PROF. Biedenkopf — himself not tainted by either a Nazi past or a Nazi ideology, and undoubtedly a democrat of the right wing — could not see is the symbolic role which former Nazis play in the eyes of the younger generation of Nazis.

Biedenkopf's own biography is a case in point. According to historian and journalist Bernd Engelmann, Kurt Biedenkopf was among the proteges of one Fritz Ries, an industrialist who amassed a fortune from the "aryanization" of Jewish enterprises, "employed" thousands of Jewish and Polish slave workers in Auschwitz, and managed to save most of his wealth when the Red Army captured East Germany.

That Fritz Ries, who later became an influential shadow figure behind German politics on the right, with close ties to the centres of political and economic power, also possessed a castle in Austria. At the castle of Pichlarn, meetings of top managers of business and politics were regularly held by the Austrian Leadership Academy, at which Prof. Biedenkopf, who had made a name for himself as one of the brightest minds among the Christian Democrats, was a prominent lecturer.

But the late Dr. Fritz Ries, who was not only a profiteer from the Nazi regime and a political wire-puller in post-war Germany, with close ties to both old Nazis and new rising politicians of a democratic breed, also had a daughter, Prof. Biedenkopf first met her at the Pichlarn Castle and married her, after both of them divorced their spouses, and after Ries died.

Among those befriended by Dr. Fritz Ries, there was certainly no inclination to cut loose from the Nazi past. All too many of them had shared it. No wonder, therefore, that the generation of the Biedenkopfs, unless they were politically immunized against it, have no understanding for the younger generation that wants to be rid of all ties to the Nazi past.



Twenty teachers of Jewish studies from Italy — one quarter of that nation's total — arrived in Jerusalem earlier this month to participate in the International Summer Institute sponsored by the Melton Centre for Jewish Education in the Diaspora. The centre, which is associated with the Hebrew University and the Tora Education Department of the WZO, has organized simultaneous translations for participants who cannot follow lectures in Hebrew, and a multilingual Hebrew University student is in charge of the translations. In the photograph above Anna Arbib, of Rome, listens in a lecture via the translation system. (Karen Ben-Zion)

Sizzling feast

DANCE / Dora Sowden

IF YOU saw the excerpt on Israel Television last week of the Zaire National Dance Theatre, and only that, those shots of bouncing head-dresses provided only the dimmest impression of the stunningly alive dances of the Zairean company, of the powerful virtuosity of the drumming, of the ethnic fascination of most of *Nkenge* as presented at Binyami Ha'uma (July 16).

The skill of the performance made one captive to the intricate rhythms, the robust hold on life. Indeed, there was more than the mere enjoyment of something strange in this splendid show out of Africa.

Nkenge is folk drama. It presents the dance and music of many tribes, brought together in a throbbing, breathing work. The story of a vaio girl, her disastrous marriage, rescue, exorcism and redemption is the peg on which the convincingly authentic folk arts are hung. It was a pity that the lighting was often too dim and that a touch of kitsch was permitted — for instance, the "split" that *Nkenge* (Mokio Mongili) did when she succumbed to the Devil (Majamu Katende) and the lift he gave her when he carried her off. The

beautiful dancing throughout did not need such embellishment. I, for one, would have liked to see more of the wonderful dancer in the raffia skirt who opened the "dance opera." The rhythms of his head, body and feet seemed independent yet utterly coordinated.

However, the other dancers, and especially the three Asiga dancers in their heavy skin costumes, provided a rich flow of almost incessant movement with an astonishing variety of footwork. Amusing evidence of the company's flexibility was provided on July 14 at the Tel Aviv Museum. After a "demonstration" of dance by some of the visitors, the audience was invited to participate on stage. Even young Israelis could achieve only pale imitations of what the Zairean could do so easily.

In sum, *Nkenge* was a sizzling feast of imagination. Its significance — in terms of the admiration and respect it engendered — is quite inestimable.

In May, the Bat-Dor Dance Company (host here to the Zaireans) had shown in Kinshasa what it could do. Now the National Dance Theatre of Zaire has returned the compliment.

Ancient tongue

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

children were scattered among the schools of other denominations.

MAYOR Teddy Kolek prodded community leaders over the years to revive the teaching of Aramaic as an integral part of their culture. He even presented them to Dr. Yosef Burg in his capacity as Religious Affairs Minister, and he echoed this encouragement. "They pushed us to start a school but we didn't get around to it," says Khalil Khano, the head of the Syrian community organization.

This year, with the financial help of the municipality, they got around to it by repairing a derelict room in an adjacent building to house a kindergarten that might be the beginning of a new community school. The room will be used in the coming months as a summer school for some 70 youngsters, who will study Aramaic two hours each day. Many are members of the Syrian scouts which, with its bagpipes and

esprit, is perhaps the most distinctive scout troop in the city.

Says Kolek: "I've wanted for more than 10 years to find a way to help renew study of the Aramaic language. I wanted to preserve this rich tradition." The Jerusalem Foundation assisted in repainting the entire compound, including painting and new electrical wiring.

AS MANY AS 30 per cent of the local Syrian families speak Aramaic at home, according to Khano, but the absence of any formal instruction in the ancient Semitic tongue bodes ill for the future. The language being taught now is colloquial, not just liturgical, say community leaders.

According to Prof. Moshe Goshen-Gottstein of the Hebrew University there is another community in Jerusalem speaking an Aramaic dialect — Jews hailing from parts of Kurdistan. The ancient language they speak, he said, is generally referred to incorrectly as "Kurdish."

In antiquity, Aramaic was the *lingua franca* for much of the Near East. There are three villages in Syria which today speak an Aramaic dialect, and similar pockets exist elsewhere in the region. In Jerusalem, where ideas rendered to Aramaic have resounded through the ages, the pocket has now been reinforced.

AN ARAMAIC dialect, similar to the language spoken in the Holy Land throughout much of the biblical period and after, is once again being taught to schoolchildren in Jerusalem.

The children belong to the Syrian Orthodox Church and the initiative for their study of the ancient tongue comes in large part from the Jerusalem municipality, which has assisted in the renovation of a schoolroom for the purpose.

The Syrian Orthodox congregation of St. Mark's Church inside Jaffa Gate uses a form of Aramaic known as Syriac in its services. Much of the liturgy would probably be recognizable to the ultra-Orthodox Jewish residents of Mea Shearim, a kilometre away, from their study of the Talmud and other ancient Jewish writings in Aramaic.

"This is the language spoken by our Lord and His disciples," says the church's new vicar, Archbishop Dionysius Behnan Yacoub Jajawi, who arrived last week from a monastery near Mosul in Iraq to assume his position.

The church, which now numbers about 500 families in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, had two schools in Jerusalem before 1948 — one in the Russian Compound and the other opposite St. Mark's. The first was shut down after 1948 and the second after 1967 because of what its own leaders term the community's negligence. The 150 school-age



Children study the ancient dialect of Aramaic at St. Mark's Church. (Mike Goldberg)

"MEDIA," a regular Second Programme feature, goes on the air on Saturday nights at 11.10 p.m. and is supposed to give us a glimpse behind the scenes of what makes newsmakers and newswriters tick. The feature might be more popular, were it not scheduled for such a late hour.

I listened in last weekend, and switched off none the wiser, and with no impression other than that my profession seems to be studded with megalomaniacs and with a good percentage of what is known in Yiddish as *olberchochems*.

Take the afternoon paper reporter about to be reassigned to

the prestigious post of correspondent in Washington. *Kol hakavod!* I remember him as a young and ambitious military correspondent whose job was made no easier by having followed in the footsteps of the son-in-law of one of the major shareholders in the paper.

On the eve of his departure from our country, the reporter evidently decided to add some more feathers to his cap, by claiming to have known and written in detail about what was going to happen in October, 1973. But for the suppression of the story by a heartless censor, he claimed, he would have been able to sound a warning in time and inform

Behind the scenes

LISTENING IN... / Ze'ev Schul

his readership of what lay in store for us all.

What poppycock! At the time everybody knew there was a military buildup on the Egyptian side of the Suez Canal — and anyone now claiming he had actually foreseen the sort of attack the Egyptians were planning to unleash must either have been blessed with

uncanny foresight and deserves to be numbered amongst the prophets or should face a court-martial for not having made his sources available to the Israeli High Command as well.

AS FOR THE *olberchochems*, an Israel Radio reporter interviewing the wife of Rabbi Moshe Levinger

in Hebron on the oontime newsreel last Wednesday literally bent over backwards in his efforts to induce the lady to "confess" that she had deliberately not reported seeing the prone figure of yeshiva student Aharon Gross bleeding to death some 50 metres from her doorstep. The insinuation was that she had assumed Gross to be an Arab, and therefore done nothing.

I tried to put myself in Miriam Levinger's shoes: who there is shooting, people tend to fling themselves to the ground, take cover and avoid becoming involved. I'm not trying to make excuses for the *rebbetzin*; I do not approve of anything she or her husband says or does — but why not give the lady an even chance?

Furthermore, this is precisely the kind of interview that is liable to be picked up by certain categories of foreign correspondents headlined: "Rabbi's wife lets fellow-Jew bleed to death because she thought he was

an Arab." Here's to the Protocols of the Elders of Zion!

WHICH BRINGS ME to the shocker of the week. Of course we all know we are in severe economic difficulties. Nothing, however, brought this home to me more than the news ("Matter of Interest," Thursday afternoon, Second Programme) that our shekel is now worth two U.S. cents. Fifty to the dollar would have sounded better — but two cents for a shekel? Five German pfennings? Or four Swiss rappen, when 12.10, in our early, glorious years, was once the equivalent of 10 pounds sterling?

I think we should advertise ourselves while the golog is still good. There cannot be many countries left where you can buy a kilo of grapes or a dozen eggs for 30 cents and a loaf of standard bread for 10 cents.

I HAVE OFTEN complained about

the poor quality of humour that is sent out over the air. Motti Giladi (noon Saturday) provided relief from our routine fare, although his sketches are also ancient relics dug up from Broadcasting House sarcophagi.

I've come to the conclusion that we lost our national sense of humour sometime in the mid-1950s. Maybe the Last of the Mohicans is Ephraim Kishon, who lasted another decade, but he is never broadcast, anyway.

MAY I PUT in a good word for "First Person." (Saturday, Second Programme, noon). This week we had Broadcasting House staffer Emanuel Halperin telling us about his experiences and impressions of the Low Countries. I don't know what this coming weekend's edition will be like, but if it's up to last week's standard, then I can recommend it as good siesta-time listening.

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Deadline for submitting tender bids is 12 noon on August 18, 1983.

Bids not found in the tenders postbox by the above time for any reason whatsoever, will not be considered. The Israel Lands Administration does not undertake to accept the highest or any bid.

"I ONLY WISH Israel had diplomatic relations with all the countries that send seeds for our garden," says Dr. Michael Avishai, director of the Jerusalem Botanical Garden. Fortunately botany transcends politics. In this garden Chinese bamboo will live harmoniously alongside American magnolias and Russian pistachio.

The idea for the Jerusalem Botanical Garden was first conceived by Professor Michael Zohary in the 1950s. The Jerusalem and Kaplan Funds, the JNF, the Municipality, and the voluntary Association of Friends of the Jerusalem Botanical Garden are all involved in making Zohary's idea a reality.

The garden sits between the Knesset, the Israel Museum, and Hebrew University's Givat Ram campus. Zohary's plan for the 60-acre (240-dunam) site is to divide plants by the geographical area from which they come, rather than by the usual botanical family grouping. The geographical arrangement, says botanist Avishai, allows for the most thorough and aesthetically pleasing presentation of entire plant communities.

Ten geographical sections — North American, Eurasian, Mediterranean, Persian and Central Asian, Chinese-Japanese, South American, tropical African, tropical Asian, South African, and New Zealand-Australian — will comprise the garden. Display greenhouses are also planned for plants requiring artificial environments.

Jerusalem's location and climate make it ideally suited for this type of garden. Located on the biological border of tropical and temperate-zone plant regions, Jerusalem can support the growth of a wide range of plants.

The capital's winters are both cold enough to allow northern plants their dormancy periods, and mild enough for the cultivation of tropical plant life. The amount of rainfall here is relatively high, yet in general the climate is arid enough to permit the growth of desert cacti and succulents. Pollution poses little threat to plant life in Jerusalem, and the city's distance from coastal industrial areas and its mountainous topography help to

limit smog. Completion of the planning and planting of the garden has been blocked by financial problems, but it has progressed beyond the drawing-board stage. In a once-neglected valley filled with boulders, now lie terraced and plowed fields: the North American, Australian, Central Asian and Mediterranean sections have been planted or are almost finished. An architect's landscape plan for the entire garden is nearing completion.

At this point, the garden is not open to the public. Upon completion, however, it will provide visitors with recreation and education and will include: a central walk and secondary paths, lookout points, instructional signs, play areas and benches.

Botanical gardens, unlike public gardens, are always created with the purpose of education in mind. According to Avishai, learning and aesthetic pleasure are joined at a botanical garden; the instructional value is "endless."

"One orchid can change the path of a child's life," he explains. "A garden can inspire children with the beauty of nature, the diversity of plant life and its interdependence with other aspects of life." These lessons are especially important in a country where aesthetics are considered frivolous, and where practicality often precludes beauty, adds Avishai. The ability to respond to beauty can be taught, he says, and can thus enrich the quality of Israeli life.

Avishai says he hopes the garden will plant other ideas in the minds of city dwellers. "People from crowded neighbourhoods are not exposed to a high quality of gardening," says the botanist. "Here the possibility of cultivating one's own garden, inside or out, will be demonstrated."

Jerusalem's location will also make the garden a haven for endangered plant species from other places in the world. Many tropical flora which can survive in this city are threatened elsewhere by tropical area land-development and lack of conservation measures, according to Avishai.

The Jerusalem Botanical Garden



Floral paradise

'One orchid can change the path of a child's life,' according to Dr. Michael Avishai, director of the Jerusalem Botanical Garden. He talks about the aesthetic, educational and recreational aspects of the garden — as yet not open to the public — with Roberta Rebold.



(Litha Heshini)

IF THE human race can be divided into two types — gardeners and non-gardeners — my husband and I definitely belong to the second category. And we have always had a dream to recreate the garden we had back in England, before we came on aliyah nine years ago.

Having a beautiful garden in England was easy — all we ever did was mow the lawn. Things kept coming back year after year without us having to do much as lift a trowel. In the spring there were daffodils, tulips and crocuses and later, rhododendrons, roses and carnations. In the autumn

chrysanthemums would appear — also quite spontaneously, all of it. So, when after years of searching, we finally found our (local) dream house with its patch of mud in the back about the size of a large car, we decided that this was it: we were to make an English garden in miniature.

Putting down our copies of A.D. Gordon we went forth, hoe in hand, to till the land. Two hours later it was unanimously agreed to fetch the yellow pines and contact the nearest landscape gardener. We told him what we wanted: a lawn, some

From mud patches to exotica

flower beds, trees for shade and — for a touch of exotica — a palm tree.

THAT FIRST year was easy. The lawn, created by "borrowing" tufts of grass from the neighbours, prospered and we tended it lovingly, pulling out weeds, watering it, keeping the kids away. The flower beds displayed their treasures at express speed (once things start to

Planting an English garden in Israeli soil is no easy feat, Gloria Deutsch discovers.

grow in Israel they don't just bloom, they explode). Calla lilies, petunias and different kinds of dahlias provided us with a cliché "riot of

colour."

Now, four years later, I sit and look out at my patch of Eretz Yisrael. Apart from the grass, colour is provided by the bright red of the garden chairs and the yellow of the baby's beach ball at the back where dahlias once bloomed. There's a splash of pink from some geraniums over in the corner.

The palm plant — you can't call it a tree — has four delicate fronds

jutting out of what looks like a giant pineapple stuck in the ground. As for the trees, if we want shade we open a parasol.

The master plan of the man-from-the-yellow-pages also included a wall of honeysuckle climbing up the mesh netting that separates us from the neighbours. The only problem there is that the neighbours are allergic to honeysuckle, and don't want it. So every time a shoot starts out on its brave journey up the fence, they cut it.

"But the lawn is our pride and joy. Neither the cricket pitch at Lords nor the Wimbledon Centre Court

have the character our lawn has, green and velvety, with razor sharp edges outlined against the brown soil of the empty flower beds. To avoid tearing it up, we just sit and look at it or tread gingerly across it to turn on the taps to water it.

Every month Ibrahim comes to cut away overgrowth and cart off the weeds. (So much for Jewish labour). What we'll do for colour when the geraniums are finished I don't know. Get another beanie ball probably.

Gardens is edited by Joanna Yehiel.

JERUSALEM is like a modest, mysterious woman who doesn't readily reveal her full beauty, but reserves it for those who search it out.

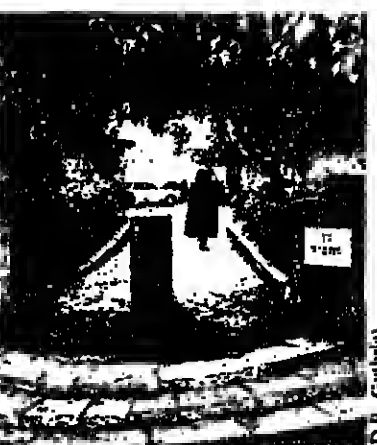
Lovers of the capital know that the city is not just composed of masses of "Jerusalem" stone, but also has gardens of great beauty, often tucked away and out of sight. Some of them are private, hidden behind high walls, but many are located in quiet streets and provide a place to relax — a living, green setting for eating a sandwich lunch, for reading the newspaper, or for playing.

Right in the centre of the city, where Shmuel Hanagid meets Narkiss Street, you will find "Gan Rehavia," a serene oasis and haven for people escaping the traffic. There you can take a few minutes to walk under tall, shady trees that

Hidden gardens

Dvora Waysman strolls through the pocket parks of Jerusalem.

shut out car noises and make you feel that you are out in the country. In Beit Hakerem, birds sing and children laugh in Ganat Habanim — "Garden of the Sons" — a public park that is beautifully kept by the municipality. There are beds of red salvia and roses, tall pines and



(D.R. Gubins)

eucalyptus, and pepper trees that have delicate sprays of pink peppercorns hanging down like necklaces. This is also a haven for the elderly. You often see them sitting there on wooden seats talking quietly to each other, or keeping a watchful eye on grandchildren in prams or older ones toddling around the winding paths.

From Ganat Habanim, a small iron gate leads into the private garden of 35 Hehalutz Street. You can see into the garden from the public park, and it is a jewel. In early spr-

ing, crocuses and hyacinths push their small green tips through the earth, while daffodils, snowdrops and buttercups nod shyly in the crevices of the rocks. There is a whole bank of brightly coloured geraniums, and cascades of ivy and delicate cyclamens are growing in old urns along the narrow stone paths that meander around the house.

In the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City, there are many charming courtyards that have been transformed by a touch of green. In Jewish Quarter Road, outside the studio of ethnic jeweller Sara Einstein, there are pots of ivy and ferns, spilling out their green lace against a background of ancient stone.

Behind the high walls of the Swedish Institute in Prophets Road is hidden one of Jerusalem's most beautiful gardens, one of a series of gardens located behind the main building. There you will find a grape arbour, that, at the right season, provides residents with big bunches of juicy, purple-velvet grapes. There seem to be as many trees in that garden as in the Garden of Eden — even an etrog tree. Along the borders, chrysanthemums riot in a blaze of yellow and russet. Delicate stefanotis trails long leafy arms, and in spring, bulbs burst into a mass of perfumed colour.

In Rehavia, from Ramban Street right up to the Ben-Zvi Institute, there is a long passage-way that is very special. At the Ramban Street end is a children's playground where, for a short time each year, a big bed of daffodils wave their golden heads in the breeze. You walk through an avenue of tall pines where couples hold hands and exchange secrets. The paths are lined with seats and the avenue ends at the Ben-Zvi Institute which has an orderly, well-tended lawn and garden of its own.

There may be other cities with more obvious beauty, but for those willing to search off the beaten track, there is nothing more enchanting than suddenly coming across one of the hidden gardens of Jerusalem.

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Research into Israel's largest natural resource Measuring the currents under the Dead Sea

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Scuba diving in the Dead Sea may not, and probably should not, become a popular sport, but it has become one of the latest tools of research in the efforts of the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure to explore that complex and ever-changing body of water.

Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i witnessed a diving demonstration yesterday in the Dead Sea during a two-hour cruise organized to present the results of several years of intensive research into what the ministry calls "Israel's largest natural resource."

The floating seminar was held aboard the 22-metre research vessel chartered by the ministry's Earth Sciences Administration, which is headed by Dr. Michael Beyth.

Wearing special suits and masks, the two divers slipped carefully into the water while the boat was at anchor several kilometers north of Jordan's Lisan Peninsula. Once a month they make the treacherous descent into oily, mineral-rich water to bring up the instruments placed some 30 metres below to measure the currents in the Dead Sea.

The diving suits are not designed to protect them from the harsh effects of the water — if they have any cuts or open sores, they suffer — but to hold the 30 kilograms of weights needed to enable them to sink in the dense, buoyant water.

Since it takes more effort to move around in the dense waters with the

diving equipment and extra weights, the divers use up their oxygen faster and can spend only between five and ten minutes below. They are in constant radio contact with the ship while beneath the dark green surface.

One diver, an ex-American named Mike Udell, explained that the special masks they wear were first developed for firefighters, to keep out smoke and poisonous gases. Not a drop of water gets into the mask, he said. When the divers take off their masks after surfacing, they are hosed down with fresh water to prevent the corrosive water from getting into their mouth, eyes or nose.

It took the divers about two years, Udell said, to work out the special techniques and precautions necessary for Dead Sea diving, since there was no comparable experience elsewhere that they could draw on.

The scientists on board explained that far from being an inert, static body of water, the Dead Sea is a dynamic chemical, geological and even biological system. In its present form, it is about 10,000 years old, and has maintained its current level during this time, with variations of 20 to 30 metres either way. Its surface is now 403 metres below sea level, and has been dropping since the 1920s.

The layered structure of the sea was first scientifically studied in the late 1950s, with a lighter, less dense layer about 40 metres deep floating



Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i (right) inspects the special gear of a Dead Sea diver. (Zoom-77)

on a heavier, denser layer extending to 330 metres at its deepest. Since 1979, however, there have been several "inversions" of the layers, and the water now is fairly homogeneous in chemical composition and density from top to bottom.

The sea's shifting structure is not only of scientific interest. The concentration of salts in the water affects the evaporation rate on the surface, and this in turn affects the economic viability of the proposed Mediterranean-Dead Sea hydroelectric project. In the advanced stage of the project, the amount of electricity that can be generated will depend mainly on how fast the sea water evaporates.

The profitability of the Dead Sea Works also hinges on the concentration of salts in the water, since the denser concentrations yield higher amounts of potash, table salt and other minerals per cubic metre

of water pumped into its evaporating pans in the southern basin.

Moda'i asked Prof. Yoel Gat of the Weizmann Institute if the current state of knowledge about the sea made it possible to accurately predict the ecological and chemical effects of mixing Mediterranean water with Dead Sea water.

Gat, in a cautious response befitting an academic, said that the shifts in the structure and composition of the sea made it easier to cope with this problem. If the sea was a stable entity, he said, it would be much harder to understand the dynamic interaction of all the factors involved. But because it is "ever-changing," as another scientist put it, scientists are in a better position to predict the ultimate effects of mixing the waters of the two seas.

Histadrut Central Pension Fund has IS35 billion in reserves

Giving pensioners their due

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — "The beauty of this building will not be in its furniture, but with what understanding, kindness and efficiency the staff receive the pensioners who come here with their problems," Yeroham Meshel, secretary-general of the Histadrut, said yesterday. He was speaking at the 25th council of the Central Pension Fund of Histadrut Employees, which took place for the first time in its new headquarters at 155 Rehov Bialik, in Ramat Gan. The fund occupies five and a half floors of the 12-story building.

Meshel, who was smiling all the time but who was very serious, said: "I don't want any pensioner, or anyone else who comes here, to get the run-around, being sent from clerk to clerk. I want each department properly labelled, and I want the corridors to have proper markings so that the visitor can accomplish his business in the shortest time and with the greatest efficiency."

Meshel said that "one day I'm going to turn up here, not as Yeroham Meshel, secretary-general of the Histadrut, but as an anonymous member of this fund. Then we'll see if all Histadrut members, active or on pension,

strong or weak, get the same serious attention."

He recalled the story of the late Paula Ben-Gurion, who upon hearing complaints about Kupat Holim, had said: "I can't understand anyone complaining about indifferent service. Every time I pick up the phone and identify myself as the wife of the prime minister, I get splendid treatment."

Meshel called upon the fund's staff never to forget that "today you are in a strong position, but one day you will also be on pension, and weak. Act accordingly."

Turning to other things, Meshel praised the pension system in Israel which was "independent of the employers. Abroad, when a plant fails, or a business goes bankrupt, the workers are left without any pensions, for their rights are an integral part of that plant, or of that business."

The Histadrut would do everything to see that this fund "remained strong and independent." It had already foiled a move by the authorities to switch some of its investments from "stable index-linked government bonds into speculative shares on the stock market. Our job is not to gamble on shares, but to assure our members that their old age is financially secure."

He said that the Histadrut would fight for a "minimum pension for all persons," as it was now fighting for a "minimum wage."

With the recent increase in the cost-of-living allowance, the average national wage at the end of July (the wages paid early in August) would be IS35,900. "Yet there are many persons, especially in the textiles and food processing plants, who do not earn half this sum — and it is our goal that the minimum wage be half the average national wage."

Meshel also rejected reaching a package deal with the government, for he feared that this would be at the expense of the take-home pay of workers.

The fund has 78,000 active (does paying) members, and another 17,000 who receive pensions, survivor and other benefits. Its reserves on June 30, 1983, stood at IS35 billion. During the last six months the fund's income from dues, interest and all its investments was some IS1.7 billion. It paid out IS1.3b. to its pensioners, leaving more than IS12b. to go into its general reserves. Administrative expenses were four per cent of current income in 1982, up slightly from 3.9 per cent in 1981, and considerably higher than the 3.6 per cent of 1980.

Bank Leumi in Leeds

Jerusalem Post Reporter

LONDON. — The North of England representative office of Bank Leumi UK has been officially opened in Leeds with a gala reception attended by civic dignitaries and business leaders. The office is located in the centre of the city's banking and financial district.

The guest of honour was Lord Lever, and the guests were welcomed by David Efrima, director and general manager of Bank Leumi UK. Among the dignitaries was the Deputy Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor Ronnie Feldman, a prominent member of the Jewish community.

Sour taste of citrus exports

By CAROL COOK
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Citrus exports have been declining steadily over the last three years, with sales during the past season down almost 9 per cent from the previous one, officials of the Citrus Marketing Board said yesterday.

A total of only \$177 million worth of fruit was exported during the 1982/83 season, compared with \$194 million in 1981/82. \$240 million in 1980/81. Yachin director Binyamin Kaplan told a press conference.

In terms of quantity, 38.5 million boxes were sold abroad this year,

compared with 42 million during the previous season, and 44.5 million the year before that.

Kaplan said Israeli oranges face tough competition in the European market, particularly from Spanish producers. He said 11 of Israel's packing houses have closed down during the past three years, and the number of workers reduced by 10 per cent. At present, 45 packing houses are in operation throughout the country, and the number could be further reduced by the addition of a second shift.

Because of reduced profits in the citrus sector, some 5,000 dunams of grapefruit were cut down and another 5,000 dunams of orchards went unharvested this year.

Last April, the Ministry of Agriculture agreed to extend \$24m. worth of aid to the strapped citrus industry, Kaplan said.

One bright spot in the picture was the drop in the price of cardboard cartons, which declined from 85 cents in 1981/82 to 72 cents last season.

Meat exports

TEL AVIV. — The Yarden Export Company, which is owned by ten abattoirs and meat processing plants, has set up a wholesale company, which is expected to sell 1,000 tons of meat a year. In Germany, Yarden has reached an agreement with three regional agents and expects to market 200 tons a month. Yarden also expects to increase exports to Switzerland to \$6 million this year.

Israeli tourists flock to Britain

By HYAM CORNEY

LONDON. — A huge increase in the number of Israeli tourists to Britain this year is reported by the British Travel Authority (BTA). Tim Lovell, who is responsible in the authority for promoting British holidays for Israelis, said this week that in the first four months of this year there was a 21 per cent increase over the same period in 1982. Last year itself was a record, with 92,000 Israelis coming to Britain.

March of this year saw a remarkable 10,000 Israelis coming here, a 66 per cent increase over the previous March. Lovell predicts that by the end of the year, the total will be well over 100,000 for the first time.

Asked to explain the boom, Lovell, who was recently in Israel, said that there were a number of factors. "But primarily, I think, it is because of the exchange rate. Bri-

tain is now a bargain and Israelis like coming here for shopping as well."

The majority still seem to spend most of their time in London, though the BTA is trying to promote other parts of the UK, such as Scotland. He also remarked that Israelis tend to come at times other than the peak months of July and August. "They come at the beginning of the year for the January sales and after the summer peak to visit London's theatres."

The British Tourist Authority will be taking a stand at the Tourism Fair in Tel Aviv in November.

STEEL-MAKING. — Pecker Plada has moved into its new plant in Kfar Sava. The plant, which cost \$2 million to build and equip, is now running in two new production lines.

Abic passes tough UK Health Min. inspection

By YIGAL BICHCOV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NETANYA. — Abic, the local pharmaceutical company, has received permission from Britain's Ministry of Health to export drugs to the United Kingdom.

This was announced yesterday after officials from London completed an inspection tour of the company's new \$1,250,000 production line and storage complex.

The permit will allow the sale of mainly anticancer drugs to the UK. Board chairman Dr. Yoel Ben-Tovim said that the examination carried out by the British Ministry of Health of pharmaceutical plants was considered to be the toughest in the world.

The fact that Abic had passed the test and received a permit from the UK meant it was up to the highest international standards.

S. Korean firm wins \$3.4 b. Libyan contract

SEOUL (AP). — Donga Construction Co. of South Korea has received a \$3.4 billion order from Libya to lay 2,000 kilometres of water pipeline, industrial sources said Friday. The sources, who declined to be identified, said that it was the biggest overseas contract ever awarded to a South Korean contractor.

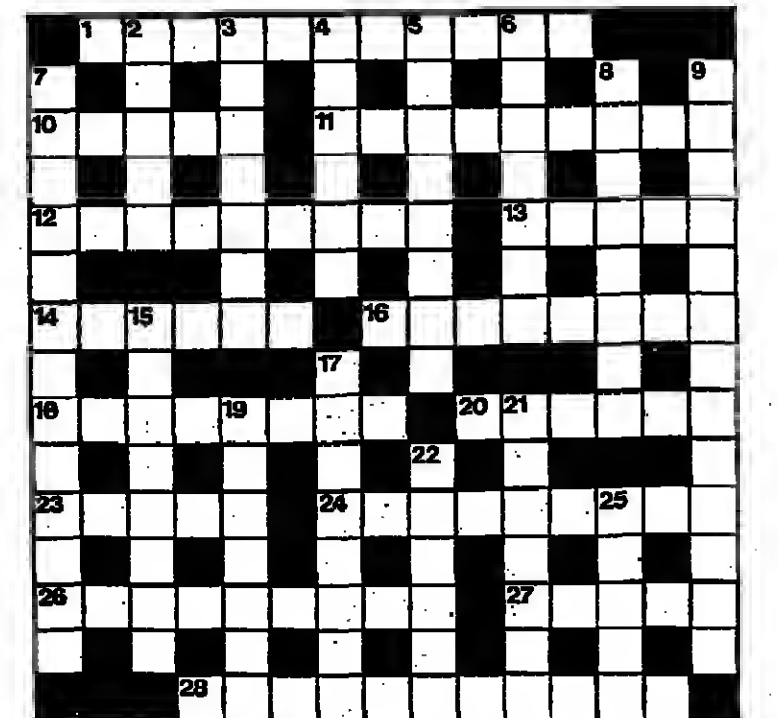
The underground pipeline, consisting of concrete conduits, is intended to carry irrigation water from newly found underground water reservoirs in southern Libya to farmland among the Mediterranean coast.

LE-HAIM. — Ehaz Wines is investing \$200,000 in improving its production lines.



ONE-AND-ONE CROSSWORD

- | | |
|---|---|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Large gathering of music-mad youngsters at which champagne flows freely? (5, 8) | 2 Curiously uneven adverbial form (5) |
| 10 Ancient sea reverting to study (5) | 3 One girl or another taking a stretch of marshland over (7) |
| 11 Becomes captain and does a bit of bowling? (5, 4) | 4 Mixed nuts brought round to a West London borough (8) |
| 12 Ceremonial trip that might be arranged for a couple of sovereigns (5, 4) | 5 Men I rank as capable of producing victory against Russia (8) |
| 13 Sporting tussle that gives all-round credit (5) | 6 Gives a hand when first put into a ship? (7) |
| 14 The end of the act, maybe (8) | 7 A tennis correspondent committed to trial? (5, 8) |
| 16 The weapon dad had to get by the seotry? (8) | 8 Open individual cooeying extra-subtle meaning (8) |
| 18 Favourite little news items about low walls that give protection (8) | 9 After-dinner mint taken out of a bottle (5, 2, 6) |
| 20 It runs a little way with quite a lot of paper (8) | 10 Humorous writer who takes off from Port Said, perhaps (8) |
| 23 We can't see what it offers as entertainment (5) | 11 Take part in a demonstration in favour of international cricket? (7) |
| 24 Sort of stress from which poppins may suffer (5-6) | 12 Deprived of her the rotter's on the verge of ruin! (7) |
| 26 One of Britain's less prosperous capitalists? (4-5) | 13 Clonk! female embracing small brother not far from Jerusalem (8) |
| 27 Secure from shock, though heart-broken (5) | 14 Trunk-road of vital importance (5) |
| 28 College paper that raises money for charity (8, 3) | |



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Profit-taking turns market mixed

TEL AVIV. — The market turned definitely mixed yesterday, with a spate of profit-taking robbing many shares of the gains won during the past three days.

However, buying pressure was still greater than selling pressures and all categories rose in price, if only slightly. The general share index rose by 0.45%. Individual categories rose (in percentages) as follows: Commercial banks, 0.20; Mortgage banks, 0.33; Financial institutions, 1.02; Insurance companies, 0.51; Trade and utilities, 0.20; Land development and citrus, 1.09; Industrials, 1.08; Investment companies, 0.58; and oil, 0.70.

Some 44 shares rose by 5% or more and 37 fell by this amount. There were two "buyers only" and three "sellers only" situations.

The turnover, which was IS810 million on the previous day, shrank to IS553.9m. yesterday, and it appears that trading will also be light for the rest of this week.

Today, Tisha Be'Av, there will be no trading, leaving only two more trading days this week. Some people are taking a "bridge holiday," that is to say, they left yesterday afternoon or will leave this morning, and will return only on Saturday evening, or early Sunday.

As for the "wild swingers," four rose by about 10%, Reinsurance, North American Bank, Cold Storage, and Sano IS5, while four fell by this amount, Vitalco ISS, Puma 0.51, Maritime 0.5, and T.A.T. ISS.

Among commercial banks another wave of selling hit both Danol shares, but First Inter-

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By MACABEE DEAN

national remained firm, and FBI rose by five points.

Among Industrials, Agan, which began to rise lately, gained 6% yesterday. (It will be recalled that Koor has considerable interests in Agan, and that Koor is planning to have a few more of its companies go public soon.)

Elbit, which has had its ups and downs lately, rose by 2.4% yesterday, and Elron rose by 1.1%. Teva Pharmaceuticals was firm, as was the Dead Sea Works.

Among investment companies, IDB development continued to rise slowly, and this share has assumed, so far, the solid stance of a commercial bank, rising slightly each day. Yesterday's rise was 0.3% (a pace it has kept for the past few days), and this is identical to the 0.3% rise of the "heavy" banking shares, IDB and Hapoalim. Leumi rose by 0.4%, as did Mizrahi.

Mizrahi has been rising for weeks now at a steady rate of six points a day. Once this rise was 0.5% a day, but since the share has risen considerably — if slowly — the six point daily hike is now down to 0.4% a day.

The Independence Mortgage Bank (which earlier this year was acquired by First International, which made it a subsidiary of its own mortgage bank, Merav, yesterday announced that its profits for the

first half of 1983 stood at IS6,974 million, a real growth of 35% over June 30, 1982. As for net profits, they grew in the year ending June 30, 1983 by 80% in real terms, to stand at IS87m. However, if these net profits are adjusted for inflation in line with Advisory Opinion 23 of the Chamber of Certified Public Accountants, the profits grow to IS91m.

Merav Mortgage Bank itself reports that its assets grew by 52% in real terms, to IS22,234m, a real growth of 52 per cent. Its real profits grew by only 50 in the year ending June 30, 1983, to stand at IS97.1m. (The index rose by 138 per cent in this period, so the bank's profits failed to keep up with the index.) If the real profits are adjusted for inflation, the bank actually suffered a loss of IS3.6m.

Prizze announces that its sales grew by 168% in the six-month period ending March 31, 1983, to stand at IS344m, while its gross profits grew by 225% (not deflated) to stand at IS42.6m. — net operating profits — before financing costs — stood at IS42.2m, a growth of 336% (not deflated). However, financing costs of IS117.3m, caused a real loss of IS73.7m. If this loss is adjusted for inflation, the real loss is IS138m.

Rogovin Construction has approved a 12% full dividend (less 35% income tax) for the year ending March 31, 1983. Net profits grew by 295% (not deflated), to IS26.3m, but if this profit is adjusted for inflation, it drops to IS13.9m. However, the latter sum still shows a real increase in profits of 76%.

Technological Resources has approved in principle the acquisition of complete control of Abolav, (compressors) for \$3m.

Most active stocks

Hapoalim	2,407	IS61.7m	+7
Leumi	1,546	IS48.5m	+6
Mizrahi	1,501	IS28m	+6
Shares traded		IS553.9m	
Convertible		IS 11.9m	
Bonds		IS198.6m	

Bank of Israel exchange rates

July 18, 1983	IS
U.S. dollar	49.8101
British sterling	75.9604
German mark	19.2276
French franc	6.3931
Dutch guilder	17.1937
Swiss franc	23.4898
Swedish krona	6.7917
Norwegian krone	5.3601
Danish, kroger	8.9114
Finland mark	40.3991
Canadian dollar	43.4020
Australian dollar	45.4442
South African rand	9.6019
Belgian franc (10)	27.3494
Austrian schilling (10)	3.2511
Japanese yen (100)	20.7025
Jordanian dinar	138.4700
Lebanese pound	11.5300
Egyptian pound	45.3272

OPEC prices, output stay unchanged

HELSINKI (AP). — In a new spirit of harmony, oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) decided yesterday to keep prices and production at current levels.

The 13 ministers also apparently ironed out in a secret late-afternoon meeting the only problem that had threatened "discord in their 68th regular meeting, overproduction by Nigeria.

Humberto Calderon Bert, of Venezuela, said the Nigerians had agreed to cut back production, in

the second quarter, they had averaged 1.6 million barrels daily, 300,000 barrels more than their quota.

Prices and production levels, hammered out in a contentious 12-day meeting last May in London, had not been expected to be a problem at the Helsinki meeting.

In London, the benchmark Saudi Arabian crude, on which other grades of oil are valued, was priced at \$29 a barrel. Daily production quotas totalled 17.5 million barrels.

Discount Bank New York reports growth

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The Discount Bank of New York, which directs the Discount's group's activities in the Western Hemisphere, yesterday announced that its balance sheet grew by nine per cent in the six months ending June 30, 1983 to stand at \$3,354 million.

Capital means stood at \$166m., compared with \$150m. at the end of 1982. —
"In line with U.S. policy not to publish a profit and loss statement during the middle of the fiscal year, the bank announces that these figures will be included in its consolidated balance sheet for the first half of 1983, which is scheduled for publication in mid-August.

UNITED MIZRAHI BANK

COMPARE YOUR MONEY EARNS MORE			
DOLLAR PAZ AND EURO PAZ PRICES FOR 18.7.83		CURRENCY BASKET	
		PURCHASE	SALE
"DOLLAR PAZ", 1 UNIT	156.5063	158.0794	
"EURO PAZ", 1 UNIT	186.7837	188.6612	
S.D.R.	52.6426	53.1716	

FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES FOR 18.7.83			
COUNTRY		CURRENCY	
		PURCHASE	SALE
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	49.5610	50.0591
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	75.7555	76.3351
GERMANY	MARK	19.1281	19.3285
FRANCE	FRANC	6.3588	6.4228
HOLLAND	GULDEN	17.1096	17.2725
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	23.9110	24.2622
SWEDEN	KRONA	6.4373	6.5020
NORWAY	KRONE	6.7581	6.8261
DENMARK	KRONE	5.3328	5.3865
FINLAND	MARK	8.8648	8.9599
CANADA	DOLLAR	40.1759	40.7997
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	43.1828	43.6169
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	45.2198	45.6744
BELGIUM	FRANC	9.5566	9.6527
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	27.2088	27.4423
ITALY	LIRE	32.3716	32.6470
JAPAN	YEN	206.1605	208.2325

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Commodity Value Change %				Commodity Value Change %			
Price \$/Lb				Price \$/Lb			
Commercial Banks				Commodity			
IDB p	83,500	—	—	Major 0.1	214	111	-22 -9
IDB p r	3,990	774	+9 +3	Major 0.5	160	57	-11 -6
IDB p r	3,600	113	-240 -6.3	Minor op 1	840	90	—
IDB p r	21,800	102	-6 -9	Bond Ware 0.1	286	90	-5 -1
IDB p r	21,800	104	+0 +1.5	Bond Ware 0.5	175	404	+2 +1
Union r	2713	600	n.e.	Bond Ware op	119	200	+3 +2
Union op 4 r	no trading	—	—	Yahalom op	122	2,050	-2 -1
Discount r	4605	157	+10 +2	Yahalom op 1	140	226	n.e.
Discount r	2695	214	-10 -4	Nikav 1.0	118	16	-1 -1
Discount op 2	3625	28	+45 +1.2	Nikav 5.0	515	63	+15 +3
Discount B	525	69	n.e.	Nikav op 1	315	58	n.e.
Mizrahi r	1,901	1,899	+6 +4	Consort. Hold.	212	12	-10 -10
Mizrahi op 1	1501	102	-6 -9	Consort. op	213	141	-16 -7
Mizrahi op 2	2,730	122	-60 -2.3	Consort. op C	146	30	n.e.
Mizrahi op 1	10,550	155	n.e.	Kapel op	306	56	n.e.
Mizrahi op 2	12,200	—	+700 +6.1	Kapel op 1	109	5	+2 +6
Mizrahi op 3	no trading	—	—	Crystal r	797	252	+71 +9
Mizrahi op 4	570	156	—	Rapaz 0.1	1844	7	n.e.
Maritime 0.1	949	150	-40 -4	Rapaz 0.5	216	n.e.	—
Maritime 0.5	428	691	-47 -9.9	Supernol 2	1490	3	+11 +1
Maritime p. B	405	3	-225 -2	Supernol 10	800	203	-30 -3
Hapoalim p. B	2400	2,560	+160 +6.7	Supernol op B	1130	13	-19 -1
Hapoalim B	2407	128	+7 +3	Time op	700	43	n.e.
Hapoalim op 7	20,300	1	n.e.	Time op 1	515	15	-25 -2
Hapoalim op 8	47,300	174	n.e.	Land, Building, Citrus			
Hapoalim op 9	16,150	—	—	Oren op 1	412	2	+10 +4
Hapoalim op 8	9100	—	—	Azorim Invest.	274	310	+4 +1
General A	6620	134	+35 +5	Azorim r	359	206	n.e.
General op 6	35,550	1	+130 +4	Azorim op C	2220	10	+20 +2
General op 7	22,770	10	+179 +8	Azorim op D	794	—	—
General op 5	3970	5	n.e.	Azorim op E	388	36	n.e.
General op 4	257	301	-3 -1.2	Ammonim 1	251	431	-6 -2
Leumi	1546	3,199	+6 +4	Ammonim op	184	54	+5 +2
Leumi op 1	no trading	—	—	African 0.1	282	12	+15 +1
Leumi op 2	23,320	38	+10 +4	African 1.0	8035	12	+15 +1
Leumi op 3	2100	2	n.e.	Africa op 2	5750	1	+60 +1
Leumi op 11	1755	81	+1 +2	Arazim	238	107	+8 +3
DHMR r	2178	51	+10 +6	Arazim op 1	230	20	-12 -8
Finance Trade 1	1840	—	—	Aradon 0.1	146	1	-1 -1
Finance Trade 5	961	16	+8 +8	Aradon 0.5	162	150	-1 -1
Finance Trade 9	1401	1	-11 -8	Ben Yakin 1	540	49	-12 -2
N. American 1	2720	201	+12 +5	Ben Yakin op	515	n.e.	-2 -2
N. American 5	1940	204	+20 +2	Baranovitz 1	150	157	n.e.
N. American 10	1140	80	+8 +8	Baranovitz 5	104	4	n.e.
Danot 5.0	312	1,160	-4 -1.3	Baranovitz op	85	32	n.e.
Danot op 2	794	264	+30 +3	Dankner 1	192	305	+5 +3
First Int'l 5	990	1,077	n.e.	Drukker 1	242	342	n.e.
FIBI	698	386	+5 +7	Drukker 5	215	33	-1 -1
Mortgage Banks				Drukker op	112	312	n.e.
Adanum 0.1	2249	22	n.e.	Darad 0.1	340	12	-21 -5
Gen Mortgage r	1834	84	+10 +6	Darad 0.5	175	99	n.e.
Gen Mortgage B	6184	—	+19 +1	Darad op 1	1190	—	—
Carmel r	1240	194	n.e.	Darad op 2	280	—	—
Carmel op	1230	46	n.e.	HLB 0.1	375	49	n.e.
Carmel deb	102	443	n.e.	HLB 0.5 r	157	128	+3 +1
Finayan	3800	48	+40 +1.3	Property Bldg	2120	132	n.e.
Dev Mortgage B	1325	11	+30 +2.3	Bayside 0.1	192	17	+50 +4
DevMort. op	737	53	n.e.	Bayside 0.5	990	94	n.e.
Yishkan r	4045	204	n.e.	Bayside op B	1251	6	n.e.
Yishkan B	4053	18	n.e.	ILDC r	2427	48	-20 -2
Insurance				ILDC B	2846	9	-10 -1
Independence	no trading	—	—	ICP r	281	658	-10 -3
Independence	no trading	—	—	Isgrit r	282	3	-5 -5
Efahab p. r	2655	1	n.e.	Isralom	329	23	+13 +4
Efahab p. r	2715	109	+10 +4	Isras B	728	137	n.e.
Efahab p. r	2680	1	n.e.	Cohen Dev.	198	54	+8 +4
Efahab op B	6815	63	n.e.	Cohen Dev. op	145	—	—
Efahab deb. 1	1015	375	+6 +6	Lumir 1	158	211	n.e.
Efahab deb. 2	243	1,236	+8 +3.4	Lumir op	591	106	n.e.
Mezav r	no trading	—	—	Lumir op 1	67	106	+1 +1
Financing Institutions				M.T.M. 1	2050	—	+50 +2
Shilton r	229	76	n.e.	M.T.M. 5	1267	1	n.e.
Shilton op 1	1550	—	-70 -4.3	M.T.M. op 1	1051	3	+31 +3.4
Shilton op 2	no trading	—	—	Mehadira r	2480	17	n.e.
Shilton op 1	no trading	—	—	Industrials			
Shilton op 2	no trading	—	—	Modul Beton	1108	53	n.e.
Dzur Lat. B	883	26	+4 +5	Mishnall 5	240	259	-20 -7
Contractors C.	378	—	+8 +9	Menrav	277	758	n.e.
Contractors C.	1840	25	+80 +5	Man-Lex 1	167	82	-10 -5
Dev. p. r	13,500	3	-200 -1.5	Offit op 1	106	145	-4 -3
Dev. p. r	478	5	n.e.	Meshulam 1	291	211	n.e.
Dev. p. r	284	55	+4 +1.4	Meshulam 5	90	100	-1 -1
Dev. p. r	468	4	-2 -4	Mesh. op 1	86	204	+4 +5
Dev. p. r	351	151	n.e.	Lishchitz 1	190	596	-10 -5
Insurance				Lishchitz 5	120	161	n.e.
Aryeh r	621	277	+40 +4.5	Lishchitz op	96	761	n.e.
Aryeh op B	3201	936	97 +21 +3.4	Neot Aviv	3700	30	-5 -5
Aryeh op 1	1950	—	n.e.	Nichsei Hadar	605	152	n.e.
Aryeh op 1	1950	12	-10 -6	Solih Bn. p. A	6281	90	+220 +3.4
Aryeh 0.5 r	530	5	+4 +8	Sahaf 1	385	100	+7 +1.3
Reinsur. 0.1 r	—	18	+98 +10.0	Sahaf 5	223	—	—
Reinsur. 0.5 r	1376	30	n.e.	Sahaf op	921	25	+2 +1
Reinsur. 1.0	309	145	+13 +4.4	Pri Or	799	19	n.e.
Reinsur. 5.0	211	119	-5 -2.3	Caesarea 0.1	240	190	n.e.
Reinsur. 1.0	321	2	n.e.	Caesarea 0.5	92	226	-5 -5
Reinsur. 5.0	1361	123	-4 -3	Rogovin 1	no trading	—	—
Reinsur. 5.0	no trading	—	—	Rogovin 5	no trading	—	—
Reinsur. 5.0	no trading	—	—	Rasso p. r	783	83	n.e.
Reinsur. 5.0	no trading	—	—	Rasso r	727	137	n.e.
Reinsur. 5.0	no trading	—	—	Rasso op	640	36	+5 +1
Reinsur. 5.0	no trading	—	—	Shenhar 5	104	119	+1 +1
Services & Utilities				Industrials			
Alkai 1	162	-35	-5.7	Agan Chem.	800	288	+45 +6.3
Alkai 2	204	-10	-5.1	Alkai op 1	530	36	+2 +2
Alkai 3	116	173	+5 +5.0	Alkai op 2	135	655	+21 +9
Alkai 4	258	141	-7 -2.6	Alkai op 3	234	404	-9 -6
Alkai 5	2350	38	-10 -4	Baruch 1	400	35	+10 +2
Alkai 6	no trading	—	—	Baruch 5	227	—	+1 +1
Alkai 7	141	40	-10 -4.1	Baruch op	26	23	-3 -3
Alkai 8	90	33	n.e.	Octagon op	217	130	n.e.
Alkai 9	130	130	+30 +6.0	Ordan 0.1 r	1463	31	n.e.
Alkai 10	303	204	+3 +1.0	Ordan 0.5 r	1053	75	+12 +1
Alkai 11	1434	30	+1 +0.3	Ordan op	483	131	n.e.
Alkai 12	4091	10	n.e.	Ordan op 1	400	20	-40 -4
Alkai 13	no trading	—	—	Atlas op	280	105	-32 -10
Alkai 14	no trading	—	—	Atlantic 1	93	83	-5 -5
Alkai 15	no trading	—	—	Atlantic op 1	62	45	-6 -8
Alkai 16	no trading	—	—	Elit. Building	229	255	+4 +1.1
Alkai 17	no trading	—	—	Elit. Building	1900	6	+450 +2.0
Alkai 18	no trading	—	—	Elit. op	17000	40	n.e.
Alkai 19	no trading	—	—	Alumina 1	400	40	n.e.
Alkai 20	no trading	—	—	Alumina 5	297	—	—
Alkai 21	no trading	—	—	Alumina op	350	32	-10 -2.4
Alkai 22	no trading	—	—	Alliance	63250	1	+1750 +2.0
Alkai 23	no trading	—	—	Alaska Sport 1	660	—	—
Alkai 24	no trading	—	—	Alaska Sport 5	355	15	+20 +6.4
Alkai 25	no trading	—	—	Alaska 5.1	283	—	—
Alkai 26	no trading	—	—	Elen 0.1	771	11	+15 +2.1
Alkai 27	no trading	—	—	Elen 0.25 r	662	95	n.e.
Alkai 28	no trading	—	—	Elen 0.25 b	578	4	n.e.
Alkai 29	no trading	—	—	Elen 0.1	2700	n.e.	—
Alkai 30	no trading	—	—	Alkai	300	63	n.e.
Alkai 31	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 1	1860	10	n.e.
Alkai 32	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 2	1212	147	-3 -3
Alkai 33	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 3	1978	2	+46 +2.4
Alkai 34	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 4	2700	13	+30 +4.5
Alkai 35	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 5	218	27	+5 +2.4
Alkai 36	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 6	131	3	-3 -2
Alkai 37	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 7	77	68	-6 -7.2
Alkai 38	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 8	149	193	+3 +2.5
Alkai 39	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 9	159	1	-1 -1
Alkai 40	no trading	—	—	Alkai op 10	161	10	+25 +2.5

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing Director

THE JERUSALEM
POST

Erwin Frenkel
Editor

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"There is no free lunch"

ISRAEL'S foreign debt per capita is the highest in the world, and it keeps soaring. This widely known fact was confirmed in a report by the Bank of Israel released on Sunday.

During the fiscal year ending last March, the country's foreign debt rose from \$18.3 to \$21 billion. This was an increase of 15 per cent, the same as the previous year. More than half of the foreign debt has accrued since the Likud came to power in 1977, and nearly one third of it during the incumbency of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor.

The Treasury will need to repay \$2.46 billion this fiscal year. The amount, as has been pointed out, is roughly equivalent to all U.S. aid in grants and loans. Although Israel is already the biggest single recipient of American foreign aid, an attempt will now be made to improve the terms of this aid. The total amount, it is hoped, will be raised further, and grants will be increased at the expense of loans.

Lately some very strong hints have been thrown in Washington that the U.S. taxpayer may not be willing to go on indefinitely underwriting Israel's recklessly managed economy. The Treasury appears to be ignoring these hints, as it goes on to widen the balance of payments gap. The assumption seems to be that, so long as this country is held to be a western strategic asset, the U.S. will shore it up economically, no matter what.

Perhaps so. But no responsible, and self-respecting, government would make Israel so utterly dependent on American munificence. The day may yet arrive when the conditions, economic and political, of continued U.S. aid become unacceptable. This is a possibility which the cabinet would do well to keep in mind when it holds the long delayed, and now promised, debate on what Yitzhak Moda'i, the energy minister, has rightly termed the catastrophic state of the economy.

Hedging on Hebron

FROM THE BEGINNING, Kiryat Arba has been something of an embarrassment for the Labour Party. This is certainly true today.

The decision to set up Kiryat Arba as a Jewish suburb of Hebron was taken by the national unit government under Labour's Golda Meir back in 1970. But it was a compromise solution, which neither Mrs. Meir nor her defence minister, Moshe Dayan, endorsed with any particular enthusiasm. Somehow it seemed the least that could be done for the original group of settlers under Rabbi Moshe Levinger, who had not been allowed to take up residence within Hebron two years earlier.

It was a strange coalition that rammed the decision through — a coalition led by Labour's Yigal Allon, whose territorial plan embraced the area earmarked for Kiryat Arba, and the Likud's Menachem Begin, whose own plan included the whole of western Eretz Yisrael.

Mrs. Meir was rather unhappy with the decision. Her consolation lay in the belief that it had no long-range political significance. If King Hussein ever agreed to discuss a territorial compromise with Israel, she did not think little Kiryat Arba would pose any obstacle. There was, in other words, no undertaking to keep Kiryat Arba within the future borders of Israel. The Allon Plan had not, after all, been formally endorsed by the government. Still, Mrs. Meir seemed to feel that Israel would have done better without Kiryat Arba.

The same view was publicly expressed by her successor as prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, in 1976. Mr. Rabin did not think that a Jewish annex to a large Arab centre, such as Hebron, could be any success. He believed that it would have been preferable, and more meaningful politically, to strengthen Gush Etzion, further north.

Mr. Rabin no longer remembers having made that statement, but it is on the record. Yet his ambivalent attitude towards Kiryat Arba was in fact typical of Labour, and certainly of the Alignment as a whole. The Alignment never specified Kiryat Arba as part of its territorial programme in any election platform, including the latest. Labour "hawks" were startled when this was pointed out to them last week, but they should not have been.

Today Labour's attitude remains ambivalent. In an effort to smooth the ruffled feathers of the party "hawks," Labour chairman Shimon Peres has now reaffirmed the Alignment's responsibility for Kiryat Arba's existence. What was conspicuously lacking in that affirmation was any commitment to include Kiryat Arba within Israel if the West Bank were partitioned between this country and Jordan.

Any such commitment would of course have offended the party "doves." But it also would have been beside the point. For it is now clearer than ever that the real issue is not Kiryat Arba but Hebron. Kiryat Arba is now revealed, more fully than ever before, as nothing but a springboard for the takeover of Hebron by Jews. The question that must be decided is whether Hebron and not fledgling Kiryat Arba is to be incorporated into Israel.

Those who insist that Jews have the untrammelled right to settle in any part of Eretz Yisrael, and that the State of Israel must spread all over the Land, will decide the question one way. Those who believe that rights must be weighed against costs, and that the cost of binationalism would be much too high for Israel, are bound to decide it very differently.

BY INDEPENDENCE Day 1981, a splendid motorway had been laid all the way to the national toxic waste site at Ramat Hovav. By the end of October 1981, two years after opening, it was provided with a 6-inch water-main. In February 1983, nearly a year after the site's closure, we received a notice from the Communications Ministry that a telephone would be provided within six months of payment of the fee. I had begun work at the site, as its operator, in November 1977.

It is a pity that Dr. Violetta Turek has during the past three years repeatedly quoted, usually inaccurately, her impressions from a visit on August 11, 1980, the day after the attack on television.

In spite of continuous harassment by Health Ministry officials from August 11, 1980 onwards, we began our third year with an improving financial position, and we initiated a programme of improvements on the site. We were discussing with prospective partners (both Israeli and foreign) the future of the project and possibilities of investment in modern equipment for the treatment of the wastes and recycling of useful materials.

I must mention the high level of cooperation shown by various departments of the defence establishment and companies with a well-developed sense of public responsibility and environmental consciousness such as the Haifa Oil Refineries and Tadiran.

In an extensive study tour of chemical waste disposal in Britain, I saw that very good systems of waste management have been evolved, and I received several offers of help with equipment and know-how, as well as capital, although the quantities to be dealt with in Israel are minute by European standards.

We did a good deal of development work on the exploitation of the acid tar as a source of oils and fuels. We had carried out research and development work both in Jerusalem and on the site, aimed at the recovery and recycling of certain metals from the wastes we received, notably manganese (in collaboration with the National Physical Laboratory), barium, lead and copper; also precious metals from cyanide solutions. In fact, we were looking forward in March 1982 to a good year and to a total rehabilitation of the project and the site.

Despite the strenuous efforts of certain officials to prevent renewal of our rental contract, it was renewed for another year, and the contract signed on March 29, 1982. Four days later, on a Friday afternoon, a fire broke out on the site, sending a pall of black smoke into the sky from a pond of oil. Although fanciful theories have been advanced by armchair experts who suggest spontaneous ignition in the hot summer sun, the possibility of arson cannot be ruled out.

The next morning, on Shabbat, the Beersheba health inspector was ready with a neatly-typed ad-

ministrative closure order. This was the opportunity he had waited nearly two years for. It is worth noting that none of our neighbours was closed down by the Ministry of Health, even though they had fires, explosions and other incidents resulting in deaths and permanent injury to workers and serious damage to the environment.

Our fire did no material damage and hurt no one: the column of black smoke from the burning oil was used as a pretext by those who wished to stimulate a panic. The resulting atmospheric pollution in Beersheba, 12 kilometres away as the crow flies, was less than that from everyday traffic jams in the main street. In any case the wind blew in that direction only a small fraction of the time that the fire burned. The Beersheba fire brigade directed jets of water on to the pond of burning oil, boosting the smoke. They said they were doing it for economy. Eventually they used foam and put out the fire.

Fortunately I had always kept the waste chemicals spread out so as to minimize the risk that a fire or any accident would involve more than small quantities of any one component. The fire consumed less than 1 per cent of the chemical waste present on the site; nine-tenths of the material consumed was oil.

THE SPREAD of materials on the site was one of the safety principles that enabled us to work for two-and-a-half years without any incident or personal accident although it may not have looked pretty. During this period, we received 10,500 tons of chemical waste in 930 road vehicles. The acid tar (9,500 tons) was carried in special tankers.

We visited factories to check packaging of special loads before dispatch; sometimes we had to extricate — by hand — disintegrating containers of chemicals which had been abandoned for 20 years in some obscure corner and repack their contents. Any cargo that we considered potentially risky was accompanied all the way to Ramat Hovav by responsible representatives of the factory or by me with due safety precautions. At all times we kept detailed records of materials entering the site.

We issued special serial-numbered despatch notes to all our clients to ensure that each truckload leaving a factory did in

NIGHTMARE OR SCAPEGOAT

The second of two articles by Joshua Jolles, the chemist who operated the Ramat Hovav disposal dump.

fact reach Ramat Hovav. Of course, there were instances where we suspected a trucker had "economized" in collusion with the factory, but this was extremely difficult to prove, as our team was only three or four people, and we could not be everywhere. We had to remind ourselves that Health Ministry inspectors should be doing their duty by policing the countryside and looking for such pirate dumpers. After all, they had the resources to do it. They concentrated instead of making trouble for us, because it was easier to find us.

The Inter-Ministerial Committee on Transportation of Dangerous Wastes (IMCTW) has been sitting (on and off) for some years and has not issued anything significant with regard to chemical waste. We had to make our own standards and occasionally issued detailed instructions to producers, transporters and drivers. We took care to direct all trucks to circumnavigate Beersheba, using the alternative route that skirts the town.

Wastes were not "dumped" on our site: most of them were unloaded by crane or fork-lift truck. Some by hand. Dangerously inflammable or reactive materials were immediately removed and isolated, and the remainder placed so as to avoid proximity of incompatible materials.

One transport contractor who had worked with industrial waste for many years, after several warnings, banned from our site because he unloaded by tipping. One of our most troublesome clients was the Nature Reserves Authority; they brought very few loads, but those were in such a state of disintegration and in such disorder that they practically fell off the truck.

Their excuse was that the budget for these "clean-up operations" was so limited that they had to collect items from many a moshav or kibbutz using the same truck. By the time the load reached us, it was like a consignment of well-mixed garbage. Nevertheless we were managing to educate some awkward clients and we would have got the measure of the NRA as well, given time. We were looking forward to being sufficiently solvent to tell them to keep away unless they complied with our packing and loading requirements.

There were, however, some really excellent transport contractors such as Rosenthal of Haifa and some of those who worked for the Defence Industries with articulated flat trucks.

IT IS easy on the subject of "chemical waste" for the ill-intentioned to mislead and frighten the uninformed and to feed distortions to eager journalists. Our opponents have engaged in a quietly insidious campaign, skillfully using the press to denigrate both the project and the operator. For example, under a "shock" headline about the toxic waste site in Ramat Hovav in one Hebrew newspaper, quoting the Environmental Protection Service (EPS) extensively, there appeared a photograph not of our site but of the "evaporation pond" of Mivoei Ta'asia, about three kilometres westward, which is a real ecological disaster.

This pond was built to receive effluent from the major chemical factories in Ramat Hovav. Some years ago it burst its western bank and became the source of a new stream in the Negev, a rivulet of polluted waters flowing steadily to the Mediterranean and seeping into the soil all along its course. This was not mentioned in the recent *Jerusalem Post* series on toxic wastes, and was ignored in statements by officials concerned with the environment.

The Health Ministry, unhappy to see materials stored in barrels, repeatedly (and typically), called for what we referred to as "cosmetic" remedies, such as wholesale burial. But burial of chemicals is a decision we would not take lightly, as it simply puts the problem in the ground for future generations to worry about.

The plan I submitted to the IMCTW in March 1979 called for chemical digestion of dangerous substances, as well as use of incineration (obviously with due provision for absorption of gases). These proposals could not be supported from any budget, and so it was agreed that the plan would have to wait until we had stabilized our position and were able to generate investment capital for an "approved enterprise."

All our prospective investors put forward conditions: the main one was that the government had to guarantee enforcement of anti-pollution laws so as to ensure that sufficient tonnage of wastes would

reach Ramat Hovav or be prepared to subsidize the plant. Another condition was the full provision of adequate infrastructure and a third was that the lease should be for long enough (after provision of the infrastructure) to ensure return of the invested capital in full.

On the question of burial, we had hoped for guidance (which never came) from the IMCTW or the Environmental Protection Service to help us decide what could be buried and under what conditions. In fact, the "experts" in the EPS were for a long time silent on this issue and are only now producing some criteria that can be applied in practice. Israel still has no published official schedule of toxic wastes (or what are referred to in Britain as "notifiable wastes") and certainly no rules regarding landfill or burial of such wastes.

The best thing the EPS and the Health Ministry can do is to admit their lack of ideas and frankly and unashamedly copy the standards evolved by the EEC countries and Britain in particular. I would not recommend taking the U.S. as an example, as a dreadful mess has resulted there.

During our long battle with the Health Ministry in the High Court, we managed to obtain the revoking of the IMCTW, which had apparently faded away as their powers were gradually usurped by the Ministry of Health and in particular by their Beersheba inspectors.

ON March 15, 1983, we and three competitors submitted our plans for rehabilitating the site to the IMCTW. We have received no official reply but we have learned from the press that Mivnei Ta'asia will manage the site. Actually, this is a wise decision, as they have resources to do what we could not, provided they have less problems with the Health Ministry and the EPS than we did. I was actually very surprised that there was no public tender; this may be largely because the IMCTW is at a loss for what to specify in writing such a tender.

It is patently obvious that a company has been used as a guinea-pig to assess the problem and now as a scapegoat for the incompetence of certain officials who have spent their time jockeying for position instead of producing a unified and rational approach.

The most constructive possibility is that the whole subject should be taken over by one of the staff of the National Council for Research and Development (NCRD), which is part of the Prime Minister's Office, in which there are people with the background necessary for handling it.

A clear-cut decision must be made to put someone in charge who has not been tainted by the shameful maneuvers of the last five years. The EPS, the IMCTW and the Health Ministry have failed to provide the professional guidance for which we looked to them.

READERS' LETTERS

DOCTORS' STRIKE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — In The Jerusalem Post of June 27, 1983, in the article, "Doctors fill empty beds as hospitals close," you wrote:

"But in Beersheba, ambulance drivers refused to disregard the Magen David Adom's standing instructions to take patients to the nearest hospital. The drivers threatened to bring patients to the paralysed Soroka Hospital and 'dump them on the doorstep.'"

Magen David Adom, as the Red Cross Society of Israel, did not take sides in the recent strike against the Ministry of Health by the Israel Medical Association. Our concern and responsibility was only the patients that suffered as a result of this dispute, and we did everything in our power to ease that suffering.

Such was the case during that day in Beersheba, where the local MDA Station was instructed by the leader of the physicians' strike not to bring any patients to the Soroka medical centre emergency room, but to transfer them, in the midst of their suffering, to an inadequate facility in Gaza for another 60 kilometres in 35° centigrade heat.

There was no assurance that the patient would be accepted at that facility, nor was there any solution concerning transportation back for the next-of-kin accompanying the patient.

Moreover, by following this directive our fleet of emergency ambulances for the service of the Negev population would, instead of

being located at the towns and the cities where a disaster could occur any minute, have been gathered with their patients at the Gaza Hospital, abandoning the area they are meant to be located in, as the physicians continued to strike.

Therefore, for the good of the patients and the communities which Magen David Adom crews serve, the local MDA Director, upon my personal instructions, told the strikers that he would absolutely not fulfill these instructions. Patients would be brought to Soroka Hospital, and if they were not admitted to the emergency room they would be left on stretchers in front of the emergency room with MDA volunteers and employees to look after them until they were treated by the strikers. This would allow the ambulances to return quickly to their communities to be ready for the next emergency.

Such are the facts of the case. They are very different from what appeared in your article, where it emerged that the "good guys" were the strikers who cared so much for the patients that they were willing to send them 60 kilometres away to Gaza, and the "bad guys" were the MDA crews who were ready, in your words, "to dump them on the doorstep of the hospital."

AMIZUR KPIR
Director General
Magen David Adom
The facts are as stated above. We were misled, we erred and regret it.
Ed. J.P.

Jerusalem.

POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Bringing teenage children along for a six-month sabbatical to Jerusalem can be a difficult experience. We viewed the prospect of our two children entering Israeli high school at mid-year with some alarm. However, from their very first day at the Rubin Academy of Music High School, our children were enveloped in an atmosphere of

warmth, understanding, patience and intellectual and artistic enrichment.

We would like to thank the children and staff of the Rubin Academy of Music High School for giving our children such a positive experience.

GAIL AND ROBERT MELSON
Jerusalem,
(West Lafayette, Indiana).

SLAPSTICK

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I should like to say how much I enjoyed D'vora Ben Shaul's lively article, "Playing the Fool," which appeared in The Jerusalem Post on July 8. I should point out, however, that the word, "slapstick," which has now come to mean knockabout comedy, involving a good deal of physical action such as the throwing of custard pies, has more of a history than merely the beating and slapping of court jesters "for fun."

A slapstick consisted of two flat pieces of wood which, when applied, for instance, to someone's posterior, produced a cracking or slapping sound. It was used by the Harlequin in *commedia dell'arte*.

It is also possible that there is a connection between this and the tradition of the Vice (a kind of fool or buffoon who appeared in the Morality Plays of the sixteenth century) eadgeling the devil, and further back, the demons in the medieval Mystery Plays who made their appearance with fire-crackers exploding from their tails.

MARION LUPU
Haifa.

MILITARY MIGHT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — It is time for Israel to leave Lebanon. To call such a vulgar display of military power, resulting in the loss of life, atrocities and continued warfare, "Operation Peace for Galilee," is to debate the language.

It is not the first time a country has been misled by military experts. Hopefully the lesson may yet be learned that political, economic, and social problems cannot be solved, but only exacerbated, by vulgar and arrogant use of military might.

The prime minister could best serve his people by an immediate military pullout.
MARK J. MENDELSON
Illinois, U.S.

ENFORCING THE LAW

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Physical violence between two groups of people is always abhorrent. In a modern state, each resident is required to obey the laws of that state even if he opposes them for political, religious or other reasons; otherwise there is anarchy. In addition, all people must be treated alike — and be seen to be treated alike — under the laws of that state. The violent attacks on the police perpetrated by some residents of Mea Shearim are no less shocking than the attacks on Israeli vehicles in Judea and Samaria. In each case there is rock throwing, tire burning and other acts which endanger lives.

I suggest that, if there are further such occurrences in Mea Shearim, a curfew be imposed on the inhabitants — perhaps to be lifted at prayer time — with curfew breakers to be punished in accordance with the law. Our police must be allowed to get on with their jobs and ordinary peace-loving citizens of Jerusalem must be able to use all the streets of their city without obstruction.

AVIVA BOOKIN
Jerusalem.

JERUSALEM TENNIS CENTRE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Since our return to Jerusalem in 1979, we have enjoyed playing tennis at the Jerusalem Tennis Centre in Katamon and have proudly brought many friends from abroad to see it and play there.

It is a joy to see the cleanliness of the Centre, the beautiful flowerbeds and the attention paid to decorum maintained by the hundreds of children for whom it was built. The high standard is constantly promoted by the management and its success in teaching sportmanship along with tennis is one of the goals of the Tennis Centre.

During the period of our service in the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., we watched the Tennis Centre grow from a dream to a reality. We now proudly participate in its activities as two of the founding members.

VIVIAN AND SIMHA DINTZ
Jerusalem.

PENFRIENDS
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